FRIDAY
December 15, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
22 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/whatsapp
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

Vol. 54 • No. 295

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

BADRUKA
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
Inspire | Ignite | Innovate

RESHAPING THE LANDSCAPE
OF BUSINESS EDUCATION

Top-Notch International and Domestic Faculty

Dedicated Career Services and Industry Connect

Student-friendly and Sustainable Campus

About the Programme

40+ Core and Elective Courses | 10 Essential Skills and Perspectives Courses | Industry and Academic Leaders as Faculty | 5 Distinct Specialisations | Strong Industry Immersion

First round of applications closes on
22nd JAN 2024

Contact us at:
+91 - 9030385491

Scan to know more

J BG-BGE

FRIDAY
December 15, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
22 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

www.thehindu.com

INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

FOLLOW US
https://newsth.live/fb
https://newsth.live/whatsapp
https://newsth.live/x
https://newsth.live/ig

Vol. 54 • No. 295

Printed at » Chennai » Coimbatore » Bengaluru » Hyderabad » Madurai » Noida » Visakhapatnam » Thiruvananthapuram » Kochi » Vijayawada » Mangaluru » Tiruchirapalli » Kolkata » Hubballi » Mohali » Malappuram » Mumbai » Tirupati » Lucknow » Cuttack » Patna

KRISHNA JANMABHOOMI CASE

HC allows survey of Shahi-Idgah mosque

NEWS » PAGE 14

SEIZURE OF DIGITAL EVIDENCE

Agencies told to follow CBI manual

NEWS » PAGE 14

AFTER A 7-MONTH LULL

Wholesale prices rose 0.26% in November

BUSINESS » PAGE 18

CLIMATE CHANGE

Should India set a higher bar to address it?

The country must have its own growth paradigm

OPINION » PAGE 13

SIZZLING SHOW

Suryakumar, Kuldeep help India make it 1-1

SPORT » PAGE 19

NEARBY

DKS favours white-topping more roads

BENGALURU
Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar batted for white-topping of more roads and termed it a solution to rid roads of potholes on Thursday.

» Page 2

PCPNDT Act: Only 100 cases filed in 21 years

BENGALURU
Karnataka's Health Department has booked only 100 violation cases of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, since 2002.

» Page 5

METROPLUS » PAGE 7

Terror charges invoked in security breach case

Police call the act a 'well-planned' conspiracy, attack on Parliament; four accused sent to seven-day police custody; another, who filmed stir outside Parliament, held; 8 security personnel suspended

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A day after a major security breach in the Lok Sabha, the Delhi Police invoked sections of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, an anti-terror law, against four accused persons. They have also been charged under sections of the Indian Penal Code related to criminal conspiracy, trespass, provoking a riot, and obstructing a public servant in the discharge of functions.

A fifth accused will be presented in court on Friday, while the sixth, who filmed the protest outside Parliament and uploaded the video on social media platforms, was arrested late on Thursday evening.

The Lok Sabha Secretariat has suspended eight security personnel for the incident, a senior government official said.

Under custody: Sagar Sharma, one of the accused arrested in the Parliament security breach case, after being produced at the Patiala House Court in New Delhi on Thursday. SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

'Terror link'

Seeking custody of the four, the Delhi Police told a court on Thursday that the act was "a well-planned" conspiracy and an attack on the Parliament of India, adding that the accused might also be associated with terrorist outfits.

The accused had posted on social media a pamphlet with a photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and the word 'Missing' plastered over it. The pamphlet declared a reward payable through Swiss banks, for whoever finds him.

"...They tried to show PM like a proclaimed offender," Additional Public Prosecutor (APP) Atul Srivastava told the court of Additional Sessions Judge Hardeep Kaur.

The four accused who were produced in court – Manoranjan D., Sagar Sharma, Amol Shinde, and Neelam Devi – were sent to police custody for seven days.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14
MORE REPORTS
» PAGE 15

14 Opposition MPs suspended from House amid face-off

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Escalating the face-off with the Opposition parties, which have been demanding a statement from Home Minister Amit Shah over the security breach in Lok Sabha, as many as 14 Opposition MPs were suspended on Thursday for the remaining days of the Winter Session for disrupting Parliament proceedings.

The Winter Session is scheduled to end on December 22.

While Trinamool Congress leader Derek O'Brien was the only one to have been suspended from the Rajya Sabha, as many as 13 Opposition MPs, including nine from the Congress and the DMK's Kanimozhi, were among those who were suspended from the Lok Sabha.

Though the DMK's S.R. Parthiban was also initially suspended, the government withdrew his name after the Congress's Karti Chidambaram and the BSP's Danish Ali pointed out that the DMK MP was not even present in the House on Thursday and was away in Chennai.

Earlier, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi moved two separate resolutions in the Lok Sabha to suspend 14 Opposition members for showing "utter disregard to the House and showing disrespect to the House".

Suspended MP Derek O'Brien protests outside the Parliament House on Thursday. PTI

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 14

'Global downturn hits State's start-up funding, FDI'

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Start-up funding activity in Karnataka dropped by approximately 80% ($2.8 billion), from $3.4 billion in the first half of the previous year to $0.6 billion in the first half of the current financial year, noted the Mid-Year Review of State Finances tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, attributing it to global economic downturn.

Foreign direct investments (FDI) into Karnataka have also decreased due to a "slowdown in advanced economies", among other reasons, the report said. The Russia-Ukraine and Israel-Hamas conflicts have adversely impacted the global supply chain and trade outlook, the review noted.

DETAILS ON
» PAGE 8

VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination
NEW DELHI | CHENNAI

THE BEST COURSES AT THE BEST CIVIL SERVICES COACHING INSTITUTE

GENERAL STUDIES
PRELIMS & MAINS COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMMES

YOUR GO-TO INSTITUTE FOR GENERAL STUDIES PREPARATION

10
GENERAL STUDIES COMPREHENSIVE COURSE
10 MONTHS PROGRAMME
COMMENCES ON 1ST FEBRUARY, 2024
DELHI CENTRE & ONLINE

2
GENERAL STUDIES FLEDGLING COMPREHENSIVE
2 YEARS PROGRAMME
COMMENCES ON 20TH JANUARY, 2024
DELHI CENTRE & ONLINE

INTERVIEW GUIDANCE PROGRAMME
2023-2024

AVAILABLE IN CLASSROOM AND LIVE-ONLINE MODES

JOIN OUR GENERAL STUDIES PROGRAMME & ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST OF UPSC TOP RANK HOLDERS

1st RANK HOLDERS (2022-2015)

ISHITA KISHORE 2022 - Rank 1
SHRUTI SHARMA 2021 - Rank 1
SHUBHAM KUMAR 2020 - Rank 1
PRADEEP SINGH 2019 - Rank 1
KANISHAK KATARIA 2018 - Rank 1
DURISHETTY ANUDEEP 2017 - Rank 1
NANDINI KR 2016 - Rank 1
TINA DABI 2015 - Rank 1

To enroll: www.vajiramandravi.com

New Delhi Centre: 9-B, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, New Delhi - 110 060, Ph: 011 - 4100 7400
Chennai Centre: New No.62, P Block, 6th Avenue, Anna Nagar, Chennai - 600 040, Ph: 044 - 4330 2121

ANDROID APP ON Google play
Download on the App Store

Visit our Student Portal: www.vajiramias.com
Email: online@vajiramandravi.com

BANANA BRANDWORKS / VAJIRAM

M BG-BGE

India is going to be a powerhouse for many decades, believes Aronian

The Armenian-born chess great says he is impressed by youngsters' ability to remain calm and composed while playing. 'This generation is very exciting. It's an unique thing to have so many good players at the same time in the same country,' he adds

B. VELANKANNI RAJ

S. Prasanna Venkatesan

Levon Aronian arrived in Chennai on Tuesday (Dec. 12) for the Chennai Grandmasters chess championship that is due to begin on Friday (Dec. 15).

So, did he get to explore the city?

"I visited Armenian street yesterday (Wednesday). I went to the Armenian church. Met some of my compatriots, Armenian people living here," he said at The Leela Palace on Thursday.

By late 2021, he moved from Armenia to St. Louis, completed his transfer to the United States Chess Federation (USCF) and became an U.S. player.

What prompted the switch?

"(The government) Bringing people who have very little knowledge (of the sport) into the field (chess) because of their political affiliation is not going to do any good to the sport.

"And quite often if a certain field is successful, it's successful for several reasons. But some of the reasons is because the functionaries are not interfering too much. They are letting everybody free and allowing them to concentrate on the field and supporting them.

"But when the functionaries want to play a big part in a certain field, really want recognition, love themselves and want to be acknowledged, that's when the problem starts. I think that's what happened and it wasn't really connected with me generally, but it was more connected with the whole chess federation and how it was handled. I didn't like that. It was not something I could tolerate."

He feels that the respect and the freedom or non-interference the players get in the U.S. is a reason for players from across to world – Fabiano Caruana and Wesley So, for instance – to switch to playing for the U.S.

"First of all, I think the chess boom happened in the U.S. and players started moving to the U.S. is because of the Sinquefield family. They helped chess a lot in St. Louis. And their approach to the game is very respectful towards the players. We do not have many arguments or disagreements with the way things are handled. Normally, the Grandmasters are asked the questions and they give their suggestions. And you're from the field; normally you're not going to make changes that are going to be bad for the future of the sport. So, that's the logic there, and I think that's why people are attracted to come to the U.S."

According to an article in the *Indian Express*, Aronian was about to quit chess in 2002 since he felt he was being sidelined by the Chess Federation of Armenia and his mother had requested the federation to let him play one last event before he moved to Germany for further education. He won that event in Goa and that helped him to continue playing. Since then, he's been fond of India.

So, why didn't he choose to play for India?

"(laughs) I don't know. It wasn't that I was looking for a certain country to move to. For a long time, U.S. was inviting me and when I felt that there is this situation that I'm unhappy about, I didn't really look for a better offer. I just decided to go somewhere where there is respect."

R. RAVINDRAN

When Aronian began playing chess, the Soviet Union was collapsing and there was a shortage of electricity and water in his country. His family struggled and became financially weaker as a result of this. Was it hard for him to keep his mind uncluttered and composed in chess?

"No, it was actually very easy, because it was an escape from the reality. So, I was welcoming chess very much. When you are in the cold – minus 20 degrees – and in your apartment you have no light or water, you just have to escape somewhere. It (chess) was the perfect escape!"

And it is that very quality of remaining calm and composed (while playing) that he finds striking in today's young Indian players.

"I think they have great work ethics. And some sort of relaxed demeanour. They are not getting very stressed by the games. It's kind of special, I think.

"For example, when you look at Arjun (Erigaisi), you almost feel like he's sleeping during the game! He's so relaxed. I think it has to do probably with the way Indians approach life. Philosophical approach, which is, of course, a big difference when it comes to the way people live in Europe or in America, because you are constantly stressed about the goals that you set for yourself."

On India's recent chess boom, he says: "I'm very happy about this boom because chess is making a circle; it's coming back to where it came from once. It's a real gift to humanity, the game of chess.

"And the fact that it's so popular here speaks about the general health of the young generation – that they get the interest in the sport, that they get the interest in the tradition. This generation is very exciting. And this generation is probably one of the most talented generations in the history of chess. I mean they had generations like that in Soviet Union. But it's an unique thing to have so many good players at the same time in the same country. I do believe that India is going to be a powerhouse for many decades."

Asked if there is any particularly impressive young Indian player, the 41-year-old said: "All of them are very hard to play against. But, well, Arjun is a very dangerous guy in the rapid or blitz. I mean he proved himself to be a dangerous opponent to me many times!"

The Gist

- Aronian happy about India's chess boom
- The experienced player was also impressed with the work ethics of Indian chess players
- When you look at Arjun Erigaisi, you almost feel like he's sleeping during the game! He's so relaxed.

Guardiola keen to add Club World Cup to Man City's trophy cabinet

Agence France-Presse
JEDDAH

Pep Guardiola is hoping to complete his trophy haul as Manchester City manager at the Club World Cup in Saudi Arabia as the Gulf Kingdom shows off its wares in hosting a major international football tournament for the first time.

City travels to Jeddah, the host for all seven matches in the tournament, looking to add a first Club World Cup to the treble of Champions League, Premier League and FA Cup it won last season.

"We miss just one trophy to finish the circle and win all the titles City can have," said Guardiola, who has already won the competition three times during his spells at Barcelona and Bayern Munich.

A dream

"We will go there and prepare because for us it is a dream."

Despite a recent four-game winless streak in the Premier League, City is strong favourite to lift more silverware. Not since Corinthians beat Chelsea in 2012 has the Champions League winner failed to lift the Club World Cup.

Motivated: Guardiola and his players are determined to win the tournament despite a dip in form. AP

Fluminense is South America's representatives after winning the Copa Libertadores for the first time last month.

However, the major threat to City could come from the rise of Saudi as a sporting hotbed.

Al-Ittihad has only qualified due to its status as champion of the host nation but boasts a wealth of previous Club World Cup winners in Karim Benzema, N'Golo Kante and Fabinho.

Benzema became the first player to ever score in four Club World Cups as Al-Ittihad swept aside Auckland City 3-0 in the first round on Wednesday.

Next up it faces off against African champion Al Ahly of Egypt in the quarterfinals.

The winner of the other quarterfinal between Mexico's Club Leon and Urawa Red Diamonds will meet City when it enters the competition in the last four stage.

Swapping loyalties

Benzema, Kante and Fabinho were just some of the star names who have recently swapped top European clubs for the riches on offer in the Saudi Pro League.

That was just the beginning of an offensive to turn the country into a football powerhouse.

Saudi is set to host the 2034 World Cup and looks almost certain to also be awarded future versions of a revamped Club World Cup.

This will be the final edition of the current format before it expands to a 32-team tournament every four years from 2025.

The United States will host the first expanded Club World Cup as it prepares to welcome the World Cup the following year.

Sporting attraction

However, Saudi is then expected to step in to add to its growing portfolio of major sporting events that includes a Formula One Grand Prix, major boxing bouts, tennis and golf events.

The conservative desert monarchy is also lining up a bid for the Olympic Games.

A string of other sporting interests include Premier League club Newcastle United and LIV Golf.

Huge investement

A huge investment in sport is designed to promote Saudi's international reputation, diversify its economy and promote tourism.

However, critics believe that under its 38-year-old *de facto* ruler, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, there is an attempt to "sportswash" its human rights record.

Among the concerns raised by rights groups are laws against homosexuality, gender inequality, freedom of speech and frequent use of the death penalty.

BADRUKA
SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT
Inspire | Ignite | Innovate

RESHAPING THE LANDSCAPE OF BUSINESS EDUCATION

Introducing
our new-age, multidisciplinary

POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MANAGEMENT

AICTE-Approved | 2-year fully-residential programme

with an unmatched focus on

Data, Technology, and Entrepreneurship

Top-Notch International and Domestic Faculty

Dedicated Career Services and Industry Connect

Student-friendly and Sustainable Campus

About the Programme

40+ Core and Elective Courses | 10 Essential Skills and Perspectives Courses | Industry and Academic Leaders as Faculty | 5 Distinct Specialisations | Strong Industry Immersion

First round of applications closes on
22nd JAN 2024

Contact us at:
+91 - 9030385491

Scan to know more

INBRIEF

SAANS launched; mother's milk bank inaugurated

Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao launched a Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) campaign, an initiative to set up four more mother's milk banks and comprehensive lactation management centres (CLMC) at a programme in Belagavi on Wednesday.

Participating in the launch programme, the Minister also inaugurated a mother's milk bank set up at the Belagavi Institute of Medical Sciences (BIMS).

Naming of airports after icons recommended

A unanimous decision was taken in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday to recommend naming the Hubballi airport after Sangolli Rayanna, the Belagavi airport after Kittur Rani Chennamma, the Shivamogga airport after Kuvempu, and the Vijayapura airport after Jagajyoti Basaveshwara.

The resolution was tabled by Industries Minister M.B. Patil amid a suggestion by BJP member V. Sunil Kumar that Mangaluru airport should be named after Koti-Chennaiah. Speaker U.T. Khader suggested that the airport could be named after Rani Abbakka.

Traffic police begin special drive against school vehicles

In a special drive launched across the city on Thursday, the traffic police registered 708 cases against vehicles carrying schoolchildren beyond the prescribed limit and those violating Supreme Court guidelines for ferrying children.

The Bengaluru Traffic Police held a series of meetings with school managements and parents to create awareness about the SC guidelines.

Meanwhile, private vehicles owners protested against the special drive and submitted a memorandum to the Transport Department.

"While the Congress promised to get us permits before elections, they are now asking us to buy buses as per the Supreme Court guidelines," said Satish Kumar, president of the School Vehicles Association.

Gang of five arrested for stealing from petty shops

The Yelahanka police have arrested a gang of five people who used to allegedly target petty shops and steal valuables.

The accused Akmal, Waseem, Bhaksh, Azhar, and Ali would commit the theft on the instruction of Sameer and take a cut from the booty.

The accused are found to have been involved in four robbery cases in the last two months.

2,000 more CCTV cameras in city, says Parameshwara

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

About 2,000 more CCTV cameras will be installed in Bengaluru under the Nirbhaya Yojana for security and law and order monitoring, Home Minister G. Parameshwara told the Legislative Council on Thursday.

Replying to a starred question by Bharati Shetty during Question Hour, the Minister said that Bengaluru now had 7,000 high resolution CCTV cameras.

"The precision of cameras is such that even a watch on the hand of a person captured on the cameras can be read," he said.

The Home Minister while replying to a starred question by P.M. Muniraju Gowda during Question Hour said that the law and order situation in the State is well under control.

Cases reported

He said that the State reported 616 murders and 310 rapes in the last six months, from June 1 to November 31, after the Congress government took over.

Kalaburagi and Raichur districts each reported two communally-related incidents (totally four) during the last six months.

The Home Minister said that when the BJP's R. Ashoka was the Home Minister, the State recorded 4,121 murders and 1,639 rapes from 2011 to 2013.

When S.R. Bommai was the Home Minister there were 2,254 murders and 915 rapes in one year and 11 months.

During Araga Jnanendra's period as the Home Minister the State recorded 2,417 murders and 949 rapes in one year.

When the BJP was in power there were communal incidents in Kolar, Uppinagady, Nargund, and Shivamogga, Mr. Parameshwara said.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated December 15, we have a story on the Kannada theatre circuit that witnessed *Vedike 40, C.R. Simha 80*, a year-long theatre festival to commemorate the 80th birth anniversary of the late stalwart of Kannada theatre Channapatna Ramaswami Simha (C.R. Simha) and the 40th year of his troupe, Vedike Foundation

Text & Context and Science

Weekday features on *The Hindu* epaper (epaper.thehindu.com) carries explainers, special articles and quizzes. In the latest issue (December 15, Friday), the following articles are available:

- Is Russia winning the Ukraine war? **bit.ly/russiawarled**
- Did COVID vaccination have a positive impact on mental health? **bit.ly/Covmentalhealth**

You can use your smartphone's inbuilt features to access these articles. If it's an Android phone, use Google Lens to read and tap the url to access an article. If it's an iPhone, use Live Text on camera to do the same.

Days after sinkhole appears on city road, DKS favours more white-topping

The sinkhole on Kensington Road near the Ulsoor lake has drawn the ire of many and while the civic body has blamed water leakage for the sinkhole, the BWSSB has denied the same

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Members of the Aam Aadmi Party performing a puja at the site of the sinkhole on Kensington Road in Bengaluru. K. MURALI KUMAR

Days after a newly white-topped part of the Kensington Road caved in, forming a giant sinkhole, Deputy Chief Minister (DCM) and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar batted for white-topping of roads and termed it a solution to rid roads of potholes on Thursday.

He said white-topping of roads will solve this [potholes on roads] problem for 25 to 40 years.

The sinkhole on Kensington Road near the Ulsoor lake has drawn the ire of many, including the Aam Aadmi Party who held a protest on Wednesday and demanded a probe into the incident, as white-topping of roads, more costlier than asphalting, was pitched as a panacea for poor quality roads.

While the civic body has blamed water leakage for the sinkhole, the Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has denied the same.

'Demands to white-top'

Responding to a query raised by H.S. Gopinath, MLC, during Question Hour, Mr. Shivakumar said that there had been demands to white-top even interior roads and he would soon call for a meeting of legislators from Bengaluru to discuss about white-topping of roads in the city.

"There are 1.14 crore vehicles in Bengaluru. Over 1,300 two-wheelers and 490 cars are registered daily. Heavy traffic movement is resulting in potholed roads, and white-topping will solve this problem as it lasts 25 to 40 years," he said.

"There is an allocation of ₹1,000 crore for white-topping this year. However, there is a demand for white-topping smaller roads as well. I will soon call for a meeting of the legislators to understand the need for white-topping in different areas of Bengaluru," he said.

The menace of digging roads for laying cables has increased in Bengaluru, and it is also damaging roads.

Hence, white-topping needs to be taken up in a systematic way, Mr. Shivakumar said. "The government has been releasing funds for the BBMP, but it needs to generate more revenue and reduce dependency on the government. We are looking at increasing taxes in order to generate more revenue and strengthen the finances of the BBMP. I welcome suggestions on this. We need to work together to protect Bengaluru's reputation," Mr. Shivakumar said.

Woman, her two children held on murder charge

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Sulibele police cracked the recent double murder of an elderly couple and arrested their daughter-in-law and her two children on the charge of killing them over a property dispute.

The police said that the accused, Bhagyamma, was upset that her in-laws refused to sell part of a land to bail out her husband and their son, Narasimhamurthy, from a financial problem.

Bhagyamma roped in her daughter Varsha, 18, an engineering student, and her 14-year-old son to execute the plan and eliminate the couple, said the police.

According to the police, as per the plan, Varsha overpowered and pinned down the elderly couple, while Bhagyamma attacked them with an iron rod, killing them on the spot on Saturday. The son, a class IX student, stood guard outside the house. After killing the couple, the accused returned home and informed Narasimhamurthy about it .

The daughter of the murdered couple had filed a complaint and based on her suspicions, the police zeroed in on Narasimhamurthy and his wife.

A detailed questioning led them to confess to the crime. Narasimhamurthy has also been booked for abetting the murder.

While the couple and the daughter has been taken into custody for further investigation, the boy has been produced before the Juvenile Justice Board and remanded in the State Home for the Boys.

CLASSIFIEDS MART

TO ADVERTISE VISIT
www.thehinduads.com
Bengaluru: 98455 29981 ■ 080-22071826
Mangaluru: 0824-2417575 ■ 2417580
Hubballi: 0836-2338600 ■ 2335700

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, JOSEPH Anthony Raj, S/o Late. Joseph, R/a #118, Prasanna Nilaya, K.Channappa Cross, Sampanna Layout, Kammanahalli Main Road, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my name to Anthony Raj vide affidavit dt: 13.12.2023 sworn before Notary K.Venkateshan, B'lore.

EDUCATIONAL

GENERAL

ANTHRO MEANS VAID SIR
Online(Live) & Offline Batch
Starting Dec 17
Admissions Open
INTERVIEW SESSIONS
With
VAID SIR
For
Existing Students of Vaids ICS
For Details visit www.vaidsics.com
Or Youtube.com/@VaidsICSDelhi
Ph: 9999946748

REAL ESTATE

PLOT FOR Sale 60x40, Gated community, Anekal, Rs. 56 Lakhs, Contact: 9739024512

TENDERS

CHENNAI PORT AUTHORITY
M&EE DEPARTMENT

e – Tender No. MEE/65/2023/Dy.CME (ES)

e-Tender is invited for **"SITC of 28 Nos. CCTV cameras along with 5 Years CAMC".**

For further details/ corrigendum, if any, visit
www.eprocure.gov.in/ www.chennaiport.gov.in

Chief Mechanical Engineer

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE LXXIV ADDL. CITY CIVIL JUDGE AT BANGALORE

O.S. No. 26294/2023 (CCH-75)

BETWEEN : Mr. G. JAYACHANDRA, Aged about 52 Years, S/o. G. Ramaswamy, Residing at No. 7-164, Eswaramma Colony, Madanpalli, Chittor Dist, Andhra Pradesh, Now Bangalore. ...PLAINTIFF

AND : 1. Mr. J. DEVARAJ, Aged about 59 Years, S/o. J.M. Jayaram, Residing at : Jakkur Village, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore-North Taluk, Bangalore.

2. M/s. SLV INFRASTRUCTURES, Partnership Firm Having its office No. 244, Sai Nilayam, Ground Floor, A.M.S. Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560 097. Represented by its Partners

3. Mr. S. SRIHARSHA, Aged about 47 Years, S/o. S. Venkataramayya,

4. Mr. N. SUBRAMANYAM, Aged about 47 Years, S/o. N. Subbarayadu, No. 244, Sai Nilayam, Ground Floor, A.M.S. Layout, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore - 560 097.

...DEFENDANTS

NOTICE / SUIT SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANTS

That the plaintiff has filed the above said suit before this Hon'ble seeking a relief of Specific Performance of the Agreement of Sale and such other reliefs in respect of the suit Schedule properties. You are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or through pleader on the day **10/01/2024 at 11 '0' Clock** to answer the same failing which the matter will be heard and determined as exparte.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

Schedule-I: All that piece and parcel of developed portion of Residentially converted Property bearing Sy. No. 11/4 (Conversion vide O.M. dated 02/01/2003 bearing No. B.D.S.ALN.S.R. (N.A) 151/2002-03, issued by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Dist Bangalore) presently having BBMP Khatha No. 978/329/11/4 Situated at: JAKKUR VILLAGE, Yelahanka Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore measuring to an extent of 0.33 guntas with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever hereunder or underneath or above the surface and bounded on the

East by : BDA Property and K.V. Byregowda's land, **West by :** Road and House building belonging to owner herein in same Survey Number, **North by :** J.M. Chandrappa's Land bearing Sy. No. 11/4, **South by :** BDA Property and Land belonging to Lakshmma and Muniyamma.

SCHEDULE-II : 350 sq.ft undivided interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule-I above

SCHEDULE-III : Flat bearing **No. 211,** in the Second Floor, Measuring **1100 sq.ft.** Super Built up Area containing Two bedrooms, together with One Covered Car Parking space including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircases, terrace, contained in the multi storied building to be constructed on the Schedule Property known as "SLV SERENITY".

Schedule-II and Schedule-III are the subject matter of the Registered Agreement of Sale.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court the 13.12.2023.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
ಉಪ ವಿಭಾಗಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ನಗರ ಸಿವಿಲ್ ನ್ಯಾಯಾಲಯ, ಮೆಯೋಹಾಲ್ ಘಟಕ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

Advocate for Plaintiff : **KHAN & CO**
Advocate & Consultants
42/2, First Floor, Sai Baba Temple Road, Cambridge Layout. Halasuru, Bangalore-560 008.
Mobile : 9880658826

EDUCATION HUB — A Business Initiative

Christ University announces its inauguration of the Centre for Korean Studies

Recently at Concard Hotel, Bengaluru Christ University proudly announced the inauguration of its Centre for Korean Studies. which took place on 12th December 2023 at Conrad Bengaluru Hotel. The event was graced by the esteemed presence of Dr. Fr. Jose C C, VC of CHRIST University, and Mr. Changnyun Kim, the Korean Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Chennai. Dr. Guydeuk Yeon, the Director of the Centre, emphasized the Centre's mission to strengthen Indo-Korean ties through various academic, cultural, and community initiatives. The VC, Dr. Fr. Jose C C, expressed his gratitude to the Korean community for their support and was optimistic about the Centre's potential impact. Mr. Chang-nyun Kim, the Korean Consul General, shared his delight at the establishment of the Centre and pledged his continued support. The event was attended by 40 dignitaries, including government officers, industry leaders, and heads of research institutes based in Bengaluru from South Korea. The Music Department of CHRIST enriched the ceremony with beautiful renditions of Christmas songs and the traditional Korean song "Arirang". The Centre for Korean Studies stands as a beacon of learning and cooperation, marking a new chapter in the rich history of Indo-Korean relations. It aims to forge deep and enduring bonds between the two nations.

MBA convocation program organized by BNMIT College, Bengaluru

VTU chancellor Dr. S. Vidyashankar speaking at the MBA convocation program organized by BNMIT College in Banashankari after awarding the degree to the students, he said that in the competitive era education alone does not provide good opportunities. Along with this, skill is also very important. This is why we are giving practical education to students, he said. Ramesh Kaza, CIO, State Street International, said, "We can only grow when we develop curiosity in life. We have to make a habit of keeping pace with new technology. A rapport should be maintained with all. He said that you will get many opportunities from this. BNM Charity Trustees Ashok A. Mane, Vaishali N. Mane, Ishwar N. Mane, Deves A. Mane, Deejes A. Mane, Additional Director of the College Dr. S.Y. Kulkarni, director T.J. Rama Murthy, Principal Dr. Krishnamurthy G.N and others were present. The students who scored the highest marks were honoured with a gold medal. It is a matter of happiness that students have chosen our college and completed their graduation here. We have envisioned all the privileges and comforts required for the learning of the students.

National level HR Conclave organized by Nitte School of Management in association with HR Shapers, Bengaluru.

The Chief Guest Dr. Mahesh Bhatt, CEO, Fornax Corporate Services, opined while speaking on the occasion of National level HR Conclave said " 'Generative Artificial Intelligence' is slightly different from the 'Artificial Intelligence' as it creates data by making inferences and extrapolations. In nutshell, an assignment that would normally take a relatively proficient human, an hour or longer, can be completed in seconds".

There were 50 Distinguished HR Experts, 200 HR Delegates and 500 Leaders of Future who participated in the day long on adaptation of Generative Artificial Intelligence in various fields of HR Management. The theme was - Role of Generative Artificial Intelligence in HR Management. Ashish Gakrey, Founder, HR Shapers, Bengaluru, was the Guest of Honour. In the beginning, Dr. M. Venugopal, Director, Nitte School of Management welcomed the gathering by giving a brief insight about the Generative Artificial Intelligence. Rohit Punja, Administrator, Nitte Education Trust; Dr. Sandeep Shastri, Director Academics, Nitte Education Trust; Dr. H.C. Nagaraj, Principal, NMIT; Prof. Raghavendra R, Principal, Dr. NSAM First Grade College, Bengaluru; Prof. Rajini Itham, Associate Director, Nitte School of Architecture, Planning and Design; and Coordinator of the Conclave Prof. Balakrishnachar M.S were present on the occasion.

St. Joseph's Institute of Management's iconic annual National level inter-collegiate Cultural and Business fest 'Verve' 2023

It started off with an insightful inaugural speech by the chief guest Shikha Nag, Founder and Director of Indian Academy of Public Speaking following which Verve 2023 was declared open by the Director Rev. Dr. Manoj D'Souza. An extraordinary number of 300 participants from both Undergraduate and Postgraduate level participated in the fest. The two-day cultural and management fest concluded by the inspiring speech of the Chief Guest Mr. Manish Raj, the Head of Strategy and Growth in Lithium Urban Technologies and the prize distribution. The Creative and Cultural overall winner were St. Joseph's College of Commerce, Bangalore and the overall winner trophy for PG students was won by XIME, Bangalore.

Did COVID-19 vaccination have a positive impact on mental health?

A study in the U.K. revealed increased incidence of mental health problems after the pandemic. This was less common among the vaccinated, compared to the unvaccinated; researchers explored records of 17 million people in the U.K., comparing incidence of eight types of mental illnesses over a timeline from the pre-vaccine era to months after vaccine rollout

Rajeev Jayadevan

While the benefits of vaccination in reducing the severity and mortality of COVID are well-established, its impact on mental health is a less explored area. Following COVID, there are reports of persistent mental health issues, including anxiety and depression. In a recent ICMR study, 9% of individuals who survived COVID hospitalisation were found to experience mental health challenges lasting at least one year. These conditions overlap with Long COVID, a spectrum of lingering symptoms affecting about 5% of individuals recovering from COVID, regardless of severity. Any intervention that could reduce this burden would therefore be valuable.

A recent U.K. study by Walker et al. revealed an increased incidence of mental health problems following COVID. However, this was less common among vaccinated individuals, when compared to unvaccinated people. The additional risk of depression at 6 months following COVID was 449 per 100,000 among vaccinated individuals, while it was 1009 per 100,000 among the unvaccinated.

The researchers explored the medical records of 17 million people in the U.K., comparing the incidence of eight types of mental illnesses over a timeline that extended from the pre-vaccine era until several months following the vaccine rollout. This enabled the detection of various types of COVID-associated mental illnesses, not only during the time before vaccines were available, but also afterward.

The unvaccinated displayed a greater prevalence of mental health issues. GETTY IMAGES

Clear difference in outcomes

During the period following vaccine rollout, the researchers found a clear difference in mental health outcomes among vaccinated individuals. They suffered less depression, anxiety and serious mental illness following COVID, compared to their unvaccinated peers. The effect was independent of whether they had prior history of mental illness. This is inferred to be due to the decreased severity of COVID-19 among vaccinated people, which could have had an indirect impact on the mental health outcomes.

An additional explanation is that vaccination reduces anxiety, creating a sense of safety, as noted in a University of New Hampshire paper. Various studies affirm this, indicating decreased anxiety and depression across age, gender, and occupation among the vaccinated. However, mental health is not a binary topic, and a deeper examination is warranted to shed more light on this.

Unlike physical health and its commonly used markers such as hospitalisation rate and death, mental health is more difficult to measure, and is often understudied. There is no lab test or scan that can diagnose mental illness. Depression, anxiety, suicidal ideation, substance abuse, schizophrenia and personality disorders are part of the spectrum, the diagnosis of which requires expert evaluation. In countries such as the U.K., electronic medical records serve as a reliable source of data on the mental illness burden in the population. This is primarily because of the GP system which caters to the general public - where all medical conditions are electronically logged.

Quality of life

Mental ill-health adversely affects quality of life, not only for the individual but also for the dependents. It contributes directly and indirectly to productivity and, consequently, the economy. A person with undiagnosed mental wellness might not be as productive as a healthy person, irrespective of their role, whether a homemaker or a public servant. Mental illness can impair the quality of decisions made in daily life, ranging from personal matters to government policies. It results in inefficiency, absenteeism and attrition, with employees frequently leaving their jobs. A report by Deloitte in the U.K. estimated that there was a 25% increase in cost to employers in the U.K. directly attributable to poor mental health during the pandemic.

A paper by the National Bureau of Economic Research, US found that vaccination reduced the burden of anxiety and depression in the population by 30%, leading to an estimated monetary saving of $346 billion. No 'spill-over effect' was observed, ruling out benefits for the unvaccinated. Reduced anxiety and depression were thus exclusive to vaccinated individuals.

At an individual level, better mental health could mean the difference between suicide and being alive, being happy or sad, or being unemployed or otherwise. Unfortunately the stigma associated with mental illness has prevented several people from seeking the help that they need. Unlike diseases such as chickenpox or conjunctivitis with overt clinical features which enable swift identification, mental illnesses can remain undiagnosed for years until a critical event brings them to light.

In any research, it is important to examine the baseline characteristics of the groups being studied. It is possible that there were fundamental differences between people who chose to be vaccinated and individuals who refused.

Marginalised groups

Studies reveal that unvaccinated individuals tend to have relatively lower education levels and belong to socioeconomically and ethnically disadvantaged groups. Within these subgroups, the physical toll of COVID is compounded by uncertainty regarding employment, income drops, job loss, bereavement, domestic stress, and challenges in accessing healthcare. Indirectly impacting mental health, some of these factors may have contributed to the apparent difference between the two groups after experiencing COVID.

> At an individual level, better mental health could mean the difference between suicide and being alive, being happy or sad, or being unemployed or otherwise

The U.K. study examined data from 2021, a period during which several mandates were in place in developed nations. Vaccination granted people certain privileges, which were out of reach for the unvaccinated. This discrimination may have contributed to their delayed recovery from a mental health setback.Another potential explanation is that early vaccination prioritised older people and healthcare workers who had greater baseline anxiety about the outcome of COVID. Consequently, such individuals may have felt a sense of relief when vaccines were introduced.

In fact, a 2022 study published in the European Economic Review by the University of Leeds found that the benefits of vaccination on mental health were predominantly observed in older and clinically vulnerable people. They did not find any significant difference in mental health outcomes attributable to vaccination among younger groups. This could be because younger people are less anxious about the outcome of COVID and perhaps did not feel the need for vaccination. Additionally, vaccination may have had a greater impact among the elderly because they were prone to severe forms of COVID.

It is estimated that 50% of all disability benefits in Britain are linked with mental health, the proportion being only 25% two decades ago. Mental health issues, when not sorted out, can aggravate unemployment. The longer a person remains unemployed, the harder it is to get employment in the future.

Children affected too

Mental health was affected during the pandemic in several ways besides COVID infection. *The Hindu* published a report in October 2020 stating that the pandemic triggered mood disorders among senior citizens in India. During the early part of the pandemic, factors like social isolation, limited access to communication devices and domestic abuse from caregivers created problems among the elderly in India. The untimely deaths of friends and relatives from COVID-19 exacerbated their sadness and anxiety.

It was not only adults who suffered from mental health issues. Children were adversely affected by school closures. Schools provide crucial non-academic services and support systems, including personal safety and nutrition for children, all of which were disrupted during closures. The increase in screen time along with a heightened attraction to video games, diminished quality of education, and lack of social interaction further impacted their mental health.

Among younger adults, working from home during the early part of the pandemic led to family conflicts, excessive alcohol use and social isolation. An entity called Zoom dysmorphia has been described, which is essentially a warped perception of self image. Following prolonged Zoom meetings, some individuals develop a heightened self-awareness and body image dissatisfaction.

A Cambridge U.K. study showed an interesting paradox. Although depression and anxiety were lower among vaccinated individuals in general, the opposite was observed among vaccinated people with lower educational attainment. The authors note that baseline vaccine hesitancy and susceptibility to misinformation in this subgroup contributed to a paradoxical increase in anxiety and depression.

A 2023 meta-analysis by Lee et al. found that although vaccination reduced depression and anxiety overall, people who had a prior history of COVID experienced more severe symptoms of depression and anxiety after being vaccinated. The U.K. study however did not find such a difference.

In summary, mental ill health during the times of COVID has rightfully been referred to as the second pandemic. Not easy to detect yet having a profound impact on the individual, family, society as well as economic productivity, it deserves greater attention. The overwhelming evidence suggests that vaccination reduced the negative impact COVID had on mental health.

(Dr. Rajeev Jayadevan is co-chairman of the National IMA COVID Task Force. He may be reached at rajeevjayadevan@gmail.com)

HUMERUS

Battling loneliness by reconnecting social lifelines

Ramya Kannan

Of late, particularly after the pandemic, a great deal of attention is being paid to mental health. The forced seclusion of the COVID-19 years appears to have severed social connections that people had established over time. Even as people establish these connects once again, it is clear that some have been unable to revert to pre-pandemic levels of socialisation, or form or sustain meaningful relationships.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has indicated that high-quality social connections are essential to our mental and physical health and our well-being. Social isolation and loneliness are important, yet neglected, social determinants for people of all ages including older people. More recently, the WHO established a Commission on Social Connection (2024-2026) with an intent to see the social isolation issue recognised and resourced as a global public health priority.

"Anyone, anywhere, can be lonely or socially isolated," the WHO says. "Across all ages and regions, loneliness and social isolation have serious impacts on our physical and mental health, and the well-being of our communities and society." The Commission will propose a global agenda on social connection, working with high-level Commissioners to make the case for action, marshal support to scale up proven solutions and measure progress.

The Covid-19 lockdown ruined social connections and left people alone. GETTY IMAGES

As per statistics with the world health body, social isolation and loneliness are widespread, with an estimated 1 in 4 older people experiencing social isolation and between 5 and 15 per cent of adolescents experiencing loneliness. A large body of research shows that social isolation and loneliness have a serious impact on physical and mental health, quality of life, and longevity. The effect of social isolation and loneliness on mortality is comparable to that of other well-established risk factors such as smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity. Social isolation and loneliness do not just harm individuals; they also have a negative impact on entire communities and societies. Research shows that their safety, prosperity, and effective governance depend greatly on the quality of social connections within neighbourhoods, workplaces, and schools, the WHO adds.

Even before the pandemic, loneliness was a concern. A systematic review by Mareike Ernst et al in a paper in the peer-reviewed journal *American Psychologist* had this to say: "Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, social isolation and loneliness were becoming major public health and policy concerns, largely due to their serious impact on longevity, mental and physical health, and well-being".

In context the results of the The Global State of Social Connections survey by Gallup and Meta are interesting. Meta and Gallup collaborated on two research studies, the first in 2022, revealed important variations in people's sense of connectedness and loneliness across the seven countries studied. The 2023 report builds on that research by presenting data on connections and loneliness among people from 142 countries.

As per the results of that perception study, 72% of the people felt "very" or "fairly" connected to others; 6% did not feel connected "at all" to other people. Nearly a quarter (24%) of the global population felt "very" or "fairly" lonely, while 49% said they were not lonely "at all." On an average, similar percentages of men and women reported feeling very or fairly connected to others (73% and 72%, respectively) or very or fairly lonely (24% each); however, there were sizeable gender differences in feelings of social connectedness and loneliness in several countries.

As per the survey, most people reported interacting with a variety of social groups at least once a day, including friends or family who live with or near them (58%) as well as neighbours or others who live nearby (46%). A third of the global population reported interacting daily with friends and family who live far away, suggesting that many people likely use some form of technology every day to foster connectedness with important people in their lives. Of the six types of social ties explored, interactions with strangers were reported least, with 16% of the global population saying they interacted with strangers at least once a day in the previous seven days.

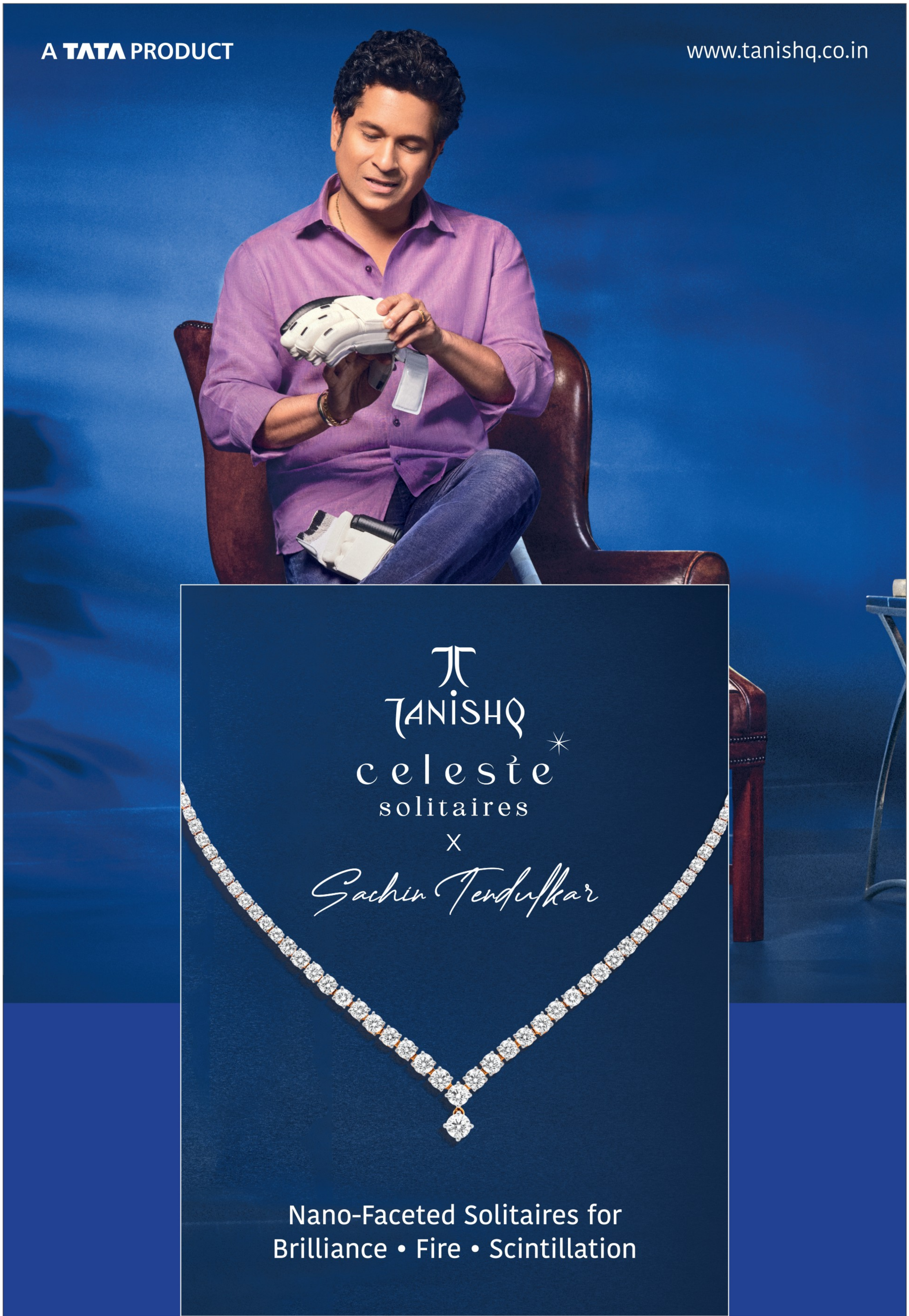
Even with this latest perception poll, there is a substantial number of people who do feel disconnected and lonely. Clear strategies will be required from governments across the world in order to keep their residents happy. No mean task at any time, but in the current set of circumstances, increasingly so.

ramya.kannan@thehindu.co.in

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

A TATA PRODUCT

www.tanishq.co.in



Nano-Faceted Solitaires for
Brilliance • Fire • Scintillation

To locate your nearest store and know more on 6366920017 Buy online at tanishq.co.in or Download our App

M BG-BGE

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

The increase in the average power purchase cost

71 in paise per unit during 2022-23. The cost rose due to a rise in overheads like transmission rates. With the increase in electricity demand from July 2021 onwards, the consumption of coal also increased. PTI

The percentage of India's uninsured population

95 According to a report by the National Insurance Academy, as much as 95% of the country's 144 crore population is uninsured despite the insurance regulator's efforts to expand coverage. PTI

Bodies of Manipur victims handed over since clashes broke

64 The bodies of the victims of the Manipur violence were handed over to their families under tight security. As per a report by a Supreme Court-constituted committee, 175 deaths were reported during clashes. PTI

The children adopted by Indians so far in 2023-24

2,248 As many as 224 children have been adopted by foreigners, according to a response in Rajya Sabha. As per data, 2,991 children were adopted by Indians in 2021-22. PTI

The Russian military personnel deployed in Ukraine

6.17 in lakh. President Vladimir Putin said some 2,44,000 troops were stationed in Ukrainian territories controlled by Russian forces. AFP

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

Follow us facebook.com/thehindu twitter.com/the_hindu instagram.com/the_hindu

Is Russia winning the Ukraine war?

Has Ukraine's counteroffensive failed? What has been the impact of Western sanctions on Russia? Has western support and aid for Ukraine decreased? Are peace talks an option at this stage of the Russia-Ukraine war?

EXPLAINER

Stanly Johny

The story so far:

It has been six months since Ukraine launched its much-anticipated counteroffensive with advanced weapons and training provided by the West. The Eastern European country, having failed to make any major breakthrough in the battlefield, is now scrambling for more military assistance. President Volodymyr Zelensky was in Washington earlier this week and is now touring European capitals to ensure that the aid keeps flowing in. Russia, on the other side, is keeping its defensive lines that cut across southern and eastern Ukraine more or less intact, and is on the offensive in parts, especially in Avdiivka in Donetsk. With hard winter approaching, Kyiv is looking for a new strategy to alter what Ukrainian Generals call a "stalemate" and recapture the territories lost to Russia (roughly 20% of Ukraine).

What happened to the counteroffensive?

In June, Ukraine launched its counteroffensive at three points on the about 1,000-km long frontline – two axes in the south towards Melitopol and Berdyansk and the third in the east towards Bakhmut in Donetsk, which Ukrainian troops had lost in May. The main focus, however, was on the southern front where Ukrainian soldiers wanted to quickly cut through Russia's formidable defence lines and link up with the Sea of Azov coast. This would have allowed Ukraine to cut off Russia's land bridge between the mainland and the Crimean Peninsula, which Russia annexed in 2014. If the land bridge is gone, the only link between Crimea and the Russian mainland would be the Kerch Bridge across the Strait of Kerch, which was attacked twice by Ukrainians since the Russian invasion began in February 2022. In the east, the calculation was that Russia's defence positions would be weak in Bakhmut where both sides suffered huge losses in the months-long battle.

Prior to the counteroffensive, Ukraine's western allies had supplied them with advanced weaponry, including missile defence systems, armoured vehicles, medium and long range rockets, and main battle tanks, besides artillery shells and ammunition. The U.S. and other NATO members also trained nine Ukrainian brigades, roughly 36,000 soldiers, in the basics of manoeuvre warfare. In August, Ukrainian troops made small advances in the south. When they captured Robotyne in Zaporizhzhia, it was hailed as a breach of Russian defences. But Robotyne turned out to be a killing hamlet for Ukrainians. Some of the elite Ukrainian troops suffered heavy losses in Robotyne, while the West-supplied weapons, including Stryker armoured vehicles and German Leopard tanks, were burned by Russian fire. In the following weeks, Ukraine found it extremely difficult to break through Russia's multi-layered defences, forget reaching the Sea of Azov. Ukrainian troops' attempts to advance were stopped in the huge minefields, and even minesweepers came under fire from Russia's attack helicopters. Russia's electronic warfare capabilities blunted Ukrainian response, while lack of sufficient air power exposed Kyiv's blitzkrieg strategy to counter attacks. Even after six months since the offensive's launch, the frontline has hardly changed.

How is Russia placed?

Russia, which was forced to retreat from Kharkiv and Kherson last year, seems to have taken an upper hand in the war ever since. After the initial Russian thrust into Ukraine met with strong resistance and the West swung back to help Ukrainian troops, President Vladimir Putin of Russia announced a partial mobilisation to draft and train some 3,00,000 troops. As the battle of Bakhmut, led by Wagner, lasted for months with tens of thousands of Ukrainian troops tied to the hopeless defence of the eastern city, Russia's regular soldiers were busy building strong defence lines along the frontline. Ukraine was supposed to start the counteroffensive earlier (it was called the 'spring offensive'), but Ukrainian Generals reportedly resisted the U.S. push to launch the attack, saying they weren't ready yet. By the time the attack started, the Russians were in a strong defensive position, their traditional forte. Compared to Ukraine, whose economy and military have been reliant on supplies and aid from the West, Russia has reinvigorated its military industrial base, ramping up defence production. (If Russia manufactured 100 tanks a year before the war, now it is making 200 tanks, according to American officials).

Russia has also amassed drones (from Iran) and shells and ammunition (from North Korea) so that it can continue the war of attrition without any supply glitches. Western sanctions aimed at weakening Russia's economy and thereby its war machine have produced mixed results. The sanctions have clearly hit the Russian economy and damaged Russia's energy ties with Europe with long-term consequences. However, the West's move to put a price cap on Russian crude to limit Moscow's oil revenues has failed as Russia continues to find big markets. Russia has also seized the crisis to diversify its energy trade with China and India, two huge markets that are dependent on energy imports, emerging as the top buyers of Russian crude. Turkey, a NATO member, and Central Asian republics emerged as conduits for Russia's sanctions-proof trade with Asian markets. Therefore, Russia appears to be stable as of now, both in the battlefield and in the sphere of economy.

Is support for Ukraine waning in Western countries?

As Ukraine's counteroffensive faltered, the support it enjoyed in the West, especially in the U.S. came under growing pressure. Last month there were reports in the American media that the U.S. and the EU are now encouraging Kyiv to start talks with the Russians. Last week, Republicans blocked an emergency spending Bill in the U.S. Congress that would provide $50 billion in security assistance to Ukraine, which was an indication that the pro-Ukraine alliance at Capitol is fraying. The White House has said in unmistakable terms that Ukraine could lose the war if U.S. aid dries up. Opinion polls in recent months have repeatedly shown that U.S. public support for Ukraine is declining. Half of Republican voters now believe that the U.S. is providing "too much aid" to Ukraine. While Zelensky was visiting Washington, President Joe Biden said the U.S. would support Ukraine "as long as it can", markedly different from his earlier rhetoric that the U.S. would support Ukraine "as long as it takes". This puts Kyiv in a spot. The White House has signalled that it would make compromises with the Republicans on border policy (to crack down on immigrants) to pass the spending Bill. But even if this Bill passes, how long can Kyiv stay fully reliant on Western aid if it doesn't make any major battlefield breakthrough? There is also a growing uncertainty in the U.S. as the country goes to presidential elections next year. Donald Trump, Mr. Biden's main rival, has vowed to bring the Ukraine war to an end within days of assuming power. This should set alarm bells ringing in Kyiv if they have a long plan in their conflict with Russia.

What's next?

In his annual press conference held on Thursday, President Putin said peace with Ukraine will take place "only when we achieve our objectives". This means he is not in a hurry to hold talks. The Ukrainian side has also ruled out talks, for now. As winter is likely to freeze the frontline, Ukraine might attempt a new strategy to break the gridlock next year, while a more confident Russia seems to be readying for localised counteroffensives aimed at capturing more territories of the four Oblasts Mr. Putin has already annexed (Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia and Kherson). While there is no end to fighting in sight, Ukraine's prospects are tied to the flow of aid from the West.

A stalemate in the counteroffensive?

The map shows the status of the Russia-Ukraine war as of September 4. The frontline has not dramatically budged in six months

Sources: Institute for the Study of War, Reuters, AFP

© GRAPHIC NEWS

THE GIST

When Ukraine captured Robotyne in Zaporizhzhia, it was hailed as a breach of Russian defences. But Robotyne turned out to be a killing hamlet for Ukrainians.

As Ukraine's counteroffensive faltered, the support it enjoyed in the West, especially in the U.S. came under growing pressure. Last month there were reports in the American media that the U.S. and the EU are now encouraging Kyiv to start talks with the Russians.

In his annual press conference held on Thursday, Russian President Vladimir Putin said peace with Ukraine will take place "only when we achieve our objectives".

SWR starts electric trains to Chickballapur

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru residents now have the option to travel to Nandi Hills, approximately 60 km from the city, via an extended electric train service.

South Western Railway (SWR) has expanded MEMU (mainline electric multiple unit) trains that run on the airport route, from Devanahalli to Chickballapur. With the successful completion of electrification between Yelahanka and Chickballapur, the SWR has made the decision to operate electric trains on this route.

Kusuma Hariprasad, Additional Divisional Manager (Bengaluru division), confirmed that the train services were extended till Chickballapur on December 11.

Lufthansa to double flight frequency

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Lufthansa which commenced direct flights between Bengaluru and Munich last month will be doubling the flight frequency to six times a week from next year. "This summer, effective June 2024, we're doubling our Bengaluru-Munich flights to six days a week instead of three days a week," Lufthansa said.

Currently operating thrice-weekly, Lufthansa's Airbus A350-900 arrives the same day at 8.05 a.m. in Munich.

Meanwhile IndiGo has announced the resumption of operations between Bengaluru and Phuket with effect from February 28, 2024.

'Conduct pregnancy test in all cases of rape, sexual offence on minor children'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has directed conducting pregnancy test of every victim of rape and sexual offences under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, along with other mandatory medical examinations after registration of a First Information Report (FIR) on the alleged offences.

This measure will help to ascertain, among other relevant medical conditions, the gestation period for termination of pregnancy at the earliest, the physical and mental status of the victim, the ability to undergo medical termination of the pregnancy, aggravating factors that will impinge upon the health and well-being of the victim, the Court said.

The Court also directed the Director General and Inspector General of Police and the Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare Department, to prepare a detailed Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for this purpose by constituting experts as they deem fit, and circulate the SOP amongst all investigating officers, Child Welfare Committees, Child Protection Units, government hospitals, as also to make available training in this regards to all concerned.

Justice Suraj Govindaraj passed the order while permitting a 17-year-old victim of rape from Anekal taluk of Bengaluru Urban district to terminate her 24 weeks and two days of pregnancy caused due to sexual assault on her.

She had approached the Court as the pregnancy had crossed 24 weeks, which is beyond the limits prescribed under Rule 3B of Medical Termination of Pregnancy Rules, 2003 without the permission of the constitutional courts.

If the victim is found to be pregnant during the medical examination, the Court said the investigation officer should inform the matter to the Child Welfare Committee or District Child Protection Unit, who in turn are directed to counsel or advice the victim and her family members of the legal options available, like continuance of pregnancy and its consequences; termination of pregnancy, the process and procedures and its consequences.

The counselling of the victim and her family members will have to be carried out in a language known to the victim, and by making use of translators, if necessary.

Sample for DNA

If the medical termination of pregnancy is being carried out, tissue samples of the foetus are to be sent to the Forensic Science laboratory for DNA analysis, and, if possible, to preserve additional samples for verification, if required, the Court said.

The Court also directed that follow-up medical checks have to be done to ascertain the physical and mental well-being of the victim.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is informed that our client **Suresh Kumar E s/o Lakshmanan & Gayathri R w/o Suresh Kumar E** intends to purchase the property described in the schedule herein from **M/s. SAPTHAGIRI SHELTERS** (hereinafter builder/seller). The Builder/seller represents and warrant that they are the absolute owners of the schedule property and they have not conveyed or entered into any Agreement to Sell/MOU or any sort of agreement with any other person/s, for sale/transfer of the schedule property and that the builder/seller further represents and warrants that they have not encumbered, mortgaged or created any lien on the schedule property in any manner and apart from them no other person/s, includes its successors, Firm or Company having any sort of right, title or claim over the schedule property. Any person/s having any objection/s or claim/s shall with documentary evidence lodge their objection/s, claim/s, within **Seven (07) days** from the date of this notice with the undersigned, failing which my client shall proceed with the above mentioned transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

FLAT bearing **No.201, 2 BHK in Block–F,** on **2nd Floor,** measuring **1184 Sqft SBA,** with **1 Covered Car parking space,** along with proportionate share in common areas constructed on land carved of Sy No.87/1, Sy No.87/2, & Sy no.78, **Katha No. 3093/87/1/87/2/78/ New No. 78/A & 78/B, known as "SAPTHAGIRI SANDALWOODS"**, situated at **BELATHUR & KUMBENA AGRAHARA VILLAGE, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Tq, Bangalore,**

Prashanth B.K, Advocate,
No.17, Sir M V 2nd Cross, Kalkere
Main Road, Ramamurthynagar
Bengaluru-560016 M : 09900056401
Bengaluru Date : 15-12-2023

UNION TERRITORY OF JAMMU & KASHMIR
OFFICE THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD (R&B) DIVISION JAMMU EAST
E-MAIL: eastdivisionjammu@gmail.com

SHORT NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Short e-NIT No. 35 of 2023-2024/Jammu East Dated 11-12-2023

For and on behalf of the **Lieutenant Governor, Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir** e-tenders are invited on **percentage basis** from approved and eligible Contractors registered with Union Territory of J&K, CPWD, Railways, MES and other State/Central Governments for each of the following works :-

S. No	Name of Work	Name of Division	Advertised Cost (Rs. in lacs)	Cost of document (in Rs.)	Earnest Money (in Rs.)	Time Allowed for complete-on	Time and date of opening of tender	Class of Contractor
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	IMPROVEMENT / UPGD. OF ASSETS AT BANGALORE BY WAY OF providing and supplying of Furniture items for flat No 71G/ Floor and flat No 87 2nd floor Building No.33 & 2 BHK Flat No. 52 Ground floor building No. 28 at Shirke layout Kengeri Banglore.	PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East	8.19	600	2% of Advertised Cost	20 Days	(1300 Hrs) on or after 19-12-2023	A, B, C & D

The Bidding documents Consisting of qualifying information, eligibility criteria, specifications, Drawings, bill of quantities (B.O.Q), Set of terms and conditions of contract and other details can be seen/downloaded from the departmental website **http://jktenders.gov.in** as per below schedule :-

1	**Date of Issue of Tender Notice**	**11-12-2023**
2	**Period of downloading of bidding documents**	**From 11-12-2023 to 18-12-2023 upto 1800 Hrs**
3	**Date, Time and place of pre-bid meeting**	**XXXXXXXX at XXXX Hrs. in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East**
4	**Bid submission Start Date**	**11-12-2023**
5	**Bid Submission End Date**	**18-12-2023 upto 1800 Hrs**
6	**Date & time of opening of Technical Bids (Online)**	**19-12-2023 on or after 1300 Hrs in the Office of Executive Engineer PWD (R&B) Division Jammu East**
7	**Date & time of opening of Financial Bids**	**To be notified after technical bid evaluation is completed**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
PWD (R&B) Division
Jammu East

DIP/J-12568/23

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN: U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.CEE/TZB/SEE(O)/AEE-4/23-24/16088 Dated : 14.12.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

KPTCL invites bid against Enquiry No. KPTCL/CEE/TR/BZ/ C-Type Wedge Connectors-CEP-113/2023-24 for Tender for Design, Manufacture, Testing and Supply of **various C-type wedge connectors** for replacement of age old deteriorated clamp at 220/66/11kv Receiving Station and 66/11KV Sub-stations coming under the jurisdiction of Ramanagara and BRAZ circle of Transmission Zone, Bangalore conforming to KPTCL Technical Specifications, F.O.R.D. at Store / site basis, including insurance and transportation.

The bids will be received through electronic tender mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject enquiry in the e-tendering process can be obtained by logging into website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **19.12.2023.** Other details can be obtained from the Office of the undersigned.

Sd/- Chief Engineer (Electy.),
Transmission Zone, KPTCL,
Anand Rao Circle, Bengaluru-560009.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Zilla Panchayath, Ballari.
Office of Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari.

No.: EE/RDWS&SD/B/JE/ JJM/3rd Party/Tend/2022-23/ 1791 Dated: 12.12.2023

E-tender Notification (KTTP Act 2000)

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka, Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Ballari hereby calls the tender for execution of "Hiring and Empanelment of Third Party Agency under JJM for Rural Drinking Water works of Drinking water scheme for Rural Drinking water and sanitation Department in karnataka." through e-procurement. The information regarding tenders will be made available in **(https:// / kppp.karnataka.gov.in/)** website & Tender document download date **12/12/2023** The last date to receive the tender from eligible bidders is at 04.00 pm on **27/12/2023** Date of opening of Technical Bid is at 05.00 pm on **28/12/2023** and Pre-bid meeting is held at Office of the Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Ballari, Above SBI Bank, Sudha Cross, Cantonment at 11.00 am on **22/12/2023** For any tender related quarries or more information bidders can contact above said office or e-procurement help desk up to **22/ 12/2023** at 4.00 pm.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDW & S Division, Ballari.
DIPR/Ballari/ 544/KSMCA/2023-24

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C.Railway can be seen on our website: www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER (through http://ireps.gov.in)

PUB/1352

CE/C-III/SC & CE/C-I/SC & CE/C-II/SC Construction Organization, S.C.Railway, Secunderabad, respectively invites e-tender on behalf of the President of India for the following works:

Sl.No.: 01 **NIT No.:** EPC-12-CAO-C-SC-2023 Date:20/11/2023 **Name of Work:** SCR Construction Organization - Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contract for Doubling of track between Kukkadam station (Incl.) and Nadikude Junction station (Excl.) from Km 103.00 to Km 151.00 (i.e., 48 Km) including Electrification & Signaling works in connection with Guntur-Bibinagar doubling project in Guntur division of South Central Railway. **Estimated Cost:** ₹647,88,17,577.52 **EMD.:** ₹ 2,00,00,000.00 **Completion period:** 30 (Thirty) Months **Date of Opening:** 01/02/2024 15:00 hrs.

Sl.No.: 02 **NIT No.:** EPC-13-CAO-C-SC-2023 Date:04/12/2023 **Name of Work:** SCR Construction organisation - Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract Agreement for "Proposed Doubling of Track including Signal & Telecommunication, Electrification & Electrical General Service works between Gooty (incl.) & Pendekallu (incl.) (31.50 Km) in Guntakal Division of South Central Railway. **Estimated Cost:** ₹333,17,03,872.64 **EMD.:** ₹ 1,66,58,500.00 **Completion period:** 18 (Eighteen)Months **Date of Opening:** 28/02/2024 15:00 hrs.

Sl.No.: 03 **NIT No.:** EPC-14-CAO-C-SC-2023 Date: 06/12/2023 **Name of Work:** SCR Construction Organization - Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC) Contract for Construction of Tunnel work and approaches for Bogadha tunnel (T-1)-(Km: 219.000 - Km: 223.800) 4.80Kms length(1.60Km tunnel length + 3.20Km length of tunnel approaches) & Chelama tunnel(T-2) - (Km: 232.300 - Km: 233.600) 1.30Kms length (0.34Km tunnel length + 0.96Km length of tunnel approaches) (approximate total length of 6.10 Kms) & allied works of Guntur - Guntakal doubling line project - Diguvametta - Gazulapalli section in Guntur division of South Central Railway. **Estimated Cost:** ₹126,95,05,752.69 **EMD.:** ₹ 63,47,600.00 **Completion period:** 24 (Twenty Four) Months **Date of Opening:** 07/03/2024 15:00 hrs.

Sl.No.: 04 **NIT No.:** 51-CAO-C-SC-2023 Date: 12/12/2023 **Name of Work:** SCR Construction Organisation - Kazipet - Balharshah Section - Proposed 3rd line with Electrification between Kazipet - Balharshah stations - Maintenance of newly opened 3rd line track from Ch:175619.00m to Ch:203457.00m between Makudi (MKDI) and Sirpurkaghaznagar (SKZR) Stations (Excluding MKDI yard and Including SRUR & SKZR yard). **Estimated Cost:** ₹139,26,264.93 **EMD.:** ₹ 2,19,600.00 **Completion period:** 12 (Twelve) Months **Date of Opening:** 02/01/2024 15:00 hrs.

i) For bid document and other details, please login to website **https://ireps.gov.in.** Tenderers can submit their offers online during tender submission period which is the Fifteen days period prior to closing of tender.

ii) Tenderers should watch for any corrigenda (issued online only) up to the date of commencement of the tender submission period.

A1861 **Chief Administrative Officer, (Construction), Secunderabad**

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, please visit website at www.ireps.gov.in http://www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY
Corrigendum 2 to Tender Notice No. CN/10/2023 Dated: 13.11.2023

In the above mentioned tender notice **(Tender no 95235460)** Earnest Money Value has been changed and last date of submission has been extended from **14.12.2023 to 26.12.2023.**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Chief Materials Manager / Construction Bengaluru Cantonment

PUB/560/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

South Western Railway-SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our clients **RAGUL KUMAR KRISHNAN** S/o. Krishnan M.V and his wife **NIVEDHA UTHAYAKUMARAN,** are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from ASHA.G @ ASHA GOPALAKRISHNAN NAIR W/o. K Gopala Krishnan Nair; any person/s, Bank, Company etc objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

Immovable property bearing Residential **Site No.11,** Khatha No.595, of Property No.6/5, Situated **HENNUR VILLAGE, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore,** measuring East to West: 30 Feet and North to South: 60 Feet, in all measuring **1800 Square Feet** and bounded on the **East by : Site No.12, West by : Site No.10, North by : Club 1, South by : 25 Feet Wide Road**

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 9108784843

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, RIYAZ AHMED S/O AJAZ AHMED, Residing at: #45, 5th Cross, Vasanth Nagar, Bangalore-560052. do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follow:

1. I hereby declare that I am Indian beloning and residing at the above said address.
2. I further declare that we have got order from **PRL SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE, BENGALURU RURAL, FR No.O.S/1736/2023, REGISTRATION No.O.S./1739/2023**

Order: By this ad-interim ex-parte order on 1A No.1 the defendants or anybody claiming under them are hereby restrained from alienating the suit schedule properties standing in their respective name in any manner till next date of hearing. This order will come into force if the Plaintiff pays sufficient process fee and supplied necessary copies. Plaintiff shall comply order 39 Rule a and b of CPC as per law.

If conditions are complied office is directed to issue TI Order, Notice on 1A No.1 and suit summons to defendants. Returnable by 18.12.2023.

SCHEDULE

All the piece and parcel of schedule premises in **Survey No.53/1, 53/2, 54/5, 54/6 & 35,** Situated at: **Nimbikaipura Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,** and bounded on:

4. I swear that I am Submit this affidavit to concerned authorities i.e. **NEWS PAPER** Purpose.

What is stated above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge information and belief.

Deponent Sworn to before me
Sd/- **THIPPESWAMY.T**
Advocate & Notary
Goverment of India

Place: Bangalore
Date: 14-12-2023

रजिस्ट्री सं० डी०ए० ल०-33004/99 REGD.NO.D.L.-33004/99

सत्यमेव जयते

भारत का राजपत्र
The Gazette of India

सी.जी.-डी.एल.-अ.-01122023-250348
CG-DL-E-01122023-250348

असाधारण
EXTRAORDINARY
भाग II-खण्ड 3-उप-खण्ड (ii)
PART II-Section 3- SUB-section (ii)
प्राधिकार से प्रकाशित
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

सं. 4877] नई दिल्ली, बृहस्पतिवर, नवंबर 30, 2023/अग्रहायण 9, 1945
No. 4877] NEW DELHI, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2023/AGRAHAYANA 9, 1945

No. SLAO/NHAI/HSN/Missing Sy. No.3/Sakaleshpur Taluk/2023-24 **Date:14.12.2023**

PUBLIC NOTICE

As per National Highways Act 1956(48 of 1956) The Government of India has issued 3A(1) Notification No.SO.5094(E) Dated 30th November 2023 for Acquisition of land for the purpose of building (widening/Two lane with Paved Shoulder/Four laning etc). of **NH-75 at the stretch of land from Km.189.7 to Km.237 Hassan - Maranahalli** Section Sakaleshpur Taluk villages in Hassan District. Which is here by published for the notice of the Public under section 3A (3) of the National Highways Act 1956.

Sd/-
Special Land Acquisition Officer and Competent Authority NH-75(48),
Hassan-Bantwal Section, Hassan

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, Dated 30.11.2023

S.O.5094(E)):- In exercise of powers conferred by sub-scetion (1) of section 3A of the National Highways Act, 1956 (48 of 1956) (here in after referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose, the land, the brief description of which is given in the Schedule below, is required for building (widening /two lane with Paved Shoulder/Four laning etc.), maintenance, management and operation of National Highway No. **NH-75, in the stretch of land from Km.189.7 to Km.237 Hassan - Maranahalli** Section in the district of Hassan in the State of Karnataka, hereby declares its intention to acquire such land;

Any person interested in the said land may, **within twenty-one days from the date of publication of this notification** in the Official Gazette, object to the use of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 3C of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the competent authority, namely, Special Land Acquisition Officer NH-75, Hassan-B.C.Road Section, DTDC Courier Office Building, KHB Colony, Channapattana, Oppo:KSRTC New Bus Stand, Hassan-573201, in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the Competent Authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner and may after hearing all such objections and after making such further enquiry, if any, as the Competent Authority thinks necessary, by order, either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of section 3C of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of the land to be acquired with or without structure falling within the stretch of land from **Km.189.7 to Km.237 Hassan - Maranahalli Section of National Highway No.NH-75 in Hassan** District, in the State of Karnataka.

Scan Here for Detailed English & Hindi Notification

Scan Here for Detailed Kannada Notification

District:. Hassan
https://egazette.gov.in Publication date ....
https://egazette.gov.in/
https://morth.gov.in/...
https://bhoomirashi.gov.in/..

File Number[F. No. NHAI/KNT-BNG/ HAS/LA/29002/2/3A]

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT, our client has negotiated and decided to purchase the Schedule Property from the respective land owners as listed. We are in the process of conducting due diligence of the documents submitted us. As a part of the scrutiny we are issuing this notification. All persons having any claims against to the Schedule Property or any part thereof by way of inheritance, mortgage, sale, conveyance, MOU, Agreement to Sell, Joint Development Agreement, G.P.A, transfer, lease deed, tenancy, license, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, gift, exchange, possession, adverse possession or otherwise howsoever are hereby required to submit the same in writing along with documentary proof to the undersigned at their office **within 15 days from the date of publication hereof**, failing which our client shall proceed without any reference to such claim and the same, if any, will be considered as waived.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the lands situated at **Doddabanahalli & Kumbena Agrahara Village,** Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore Urban District

SI NO	SY. NO.	EXTENT	VILLAGE	OWNER/S
1.	33	0-22 G	Doddabanahalli	Marappa Family
2.	35/1	0-10.08 G	Doddabanahalli	K. Krishnappa S/o Kenchappa
3.	35/1	0-16 G	Doddabanahalli	K. Dasappa S/o Kenchappa
4.	36/1	0-03.08 G	Doddabanahalli	K. Krishnappa S/o Kenchappa
5.	36/1	0-03.08 G	Doddabanahalli	K. Dasappa S/o Kenchappa
6.	36/2	0-14 G	Doddabanahalli	K. Krishnappa S/o Kenchappa
7.	127/1	1 A 05 G	Kumbena Agrahara	Devaraj S/o Dasappa
8.	127/4 (Old No. 127/2)	1 A 18 G	Kumbena Agrahara	K. Krishnappa S/o Kenchappa
9.	130	0-21 G	Kumbena Agrahara	B. Srinivas S/o P. Balappa
10.	131	0-19 G	Kumbena Agrahara	K. Krishnappa S/o Kenchappa
11.	131	0-14 G	Kumbena Agrahara	K. Dasappa S/o Kenchappa
12.	132	0-21 G	Kumbena Agrahara	Devaraj S/o Dasappa
13.	134/2	1 A 04 G	Kumbena Agrahara	Marappa Family
14.	134/3	0-24 G	Kumbena Agrahara	Marappa Family

Dated this 15th day of December 2023 at Bangalore

M/S. LEGAL NEXUS,
ADVOCATES & CONSULTANTS,
No. 428, 24th Main, 25th Cross, Sector – 2, H.S.R Layout, Bangalore – 560 102.
Phone: 080-65555914 Mobile: 9945688974; 9164150690

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
EXECUTIVE ENGINER, NATIONAL HIGHWAY DIVISION, CHAIBASA
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPATMENT, JHARKHAND

Request for Proposal for Performance based Maintenance Contracts

NIT No. NH/CHAIBASA/PBMC/02/2023-24 Dated: 13.12.2023

Application in the prescribed format from eligible contractors for Request for proposal for Performance based Maintenance Contracts) PBMC) mode are invited for following project in two bid systems, (Technical & Financial).

SL No.	Name of works	State	Length	Approximate cost (in lakh)	Cost of bid Document in Rs.	Bid Security (in lakh)	Contract Duration * (Month)
1	PBMC work of NH-320D from km 35.100 to km 86.00 (Total Length=50.90 km) in the state of Jharkhand. (Job No. PBMC-JHR-2023-24-338)	Jharkhand	50.90	2778.49	10,000/-	27.78	60

Important Dates.

1	Date of Issue of Notice Inviting RFP	:	13.12.2023
2	Last Date of Receiving Quarries	:	03.01.2024
3	Pre-Bid Meeting at venue (as mentioned in RFP)	:	08.01.2024 at 12:20 Hrs
4	Authority Response to Queries Latest by	:	05.01.2024
5	Period of Sale of Bid Document	:	From 18.12.2023 12:00 HRS to 18.01.2024 upto 17:00HRS Through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
6	Bid Due Date	:	Date 18.01.2024 Up to 17:00 HRS Through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
7	Last date of physical submission of bid security, POA and other documents in original	:	18.01.2024, up to 17.00 HRS
8	Time and Date of Opening Technical Bid (RFP)	:	Date 19.01.2024 15:00 HRS Through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
9	Time and Date of Opening Financial Bid	:	To be notify. Through official portal of : [https:// eprocure.gov.in]
10	Place of Opening of Bids	:	Office of the Chief Engineer, NH Wing, Jharkhand, Ranchi Through official portal of: [https:// eprocure.gov.in/]
11	Bid Validity	:	120 Days From the Bid Due Date.
12	Officer Inviting Bids	:	Executive Engineer, National Highway Division, Chaibasa.

(a) Bid Document Fee (Cost of RFP document) which **Rs. 10,000/-(Rupees Ten thousand only)** shall be paid only through NTRP (Non –Tax Receipt Portal) Portal https://bharatkosh.gov.in to Pay & Accounts Officer (PAO: 034756 in "Regional Pay Accounts Officer [RPAO (NH), Kolkata code No. 034756 and DDO Code No. 202122 Purpose: Sale of Tender Documents.].

Executive Engineer
National Highway Division, Chaibasa

PR 313415 West Singhbhum(23-24)#D

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Cinematic feast: Glimpses from the 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI), on November 20. ANI

Around the world: an account from the 54th International Film Festival of India

IFFI Goa 2023 screened close to 270 films from 105 countries in 12 halls at four venues in a week. A quick look at the kind of films which where shown and the political, social and economic themes these movies touched upon

Pradip Phanjoubam

The 54th International Film Festival of India organised by the National Film Development Corporation, and Entertainment Society of Goa concluded on November 28. Close to 270 films from 105 countries were screened in a week in 12 halls at four venues. There were also over 30 lectures and interaction sessions with film personalities, in addition to a Film Bazar where prospective film producers and film makers could meet and make deals.

I was there with my daughter, an amateur film maker. We averaged three films a day for seven days after avoiding the red carpet opening and closing events. We picked films randomly but evenly spread across continents. Surprisingly, none disappointed, partly because we were looking not just for cinematic excellence but also for the residues of the political and social climates which shaped these films. The broad pattern was as we expected. Films from Africa generally had some elements of lawlessness, Central Asian films evoked pictures of conflict migration and gender oppression, South East Asian films showed underlying social tensions of the rural-urban divide while in Western European films themes of boredom and juvenile delinquency were common.

On the state and its people

Take Italian director Matteo Garrone's *Me Captain* set in Senegal. Two boys run away from their homes to travel to their dreamland of Europe to escape their stagnant lower middle-class life in Dakar. They join other impoverished migrants to make a perilous journey across the Sahara Desert through Senegal, Mali, Niger and Libya in order to sail to Sicily. We get a picture of the lack of control these countries have over their land, leaving the law in the hands of warlords and gangs. Many refugees do not make it out alive, but the two boys complete their odyssey. The frightening pervasive sense is of the fate of societies where the state no longer holds monopoly over "legitimate violence" – an attribute Max Weber says is a defining character of any state.

But what happens when a state is given too much power and impunity? Argentinian Director Ulises Dela Orden's *The Trial* provides the chilling answer. This documentary is a compilation of extracts from 530 hours of film footage of the 1985 trial of former heads of the Argentinian military who staged a coup and remained in power between 1974 and 1983, brutally suppressing all political dissidents, in particular socialists and others they considered left-wing subversives. Segmented in 18 chapters, the nearly three-hour film tells of the horrifying atrocities the junta perpetrated, marked by kidnappings, custodial rapes and murders, disappearances etc. The court testimonies of victims are gut wrenching. However, the defence by junta leaders also pose some deeply troubling moral questions. One General testifies that whatever they did, they did at the bidding of the public, and for the good of the country and its people. Implied here is that, as in any authoritarian rule, there is always some measure of approval, if not complicity, of the public. This is a reminder that the surrender of individual moral autonomy by an insecure public to leaders they see as strong, has always been a factor in any dictatorship. Erich Fromm predicted this in his book *Escape from Freedom*.

A touch of horror

What about near perfect welfare states? Finnish director Hanna Marjo Västinsalo's *Palimpsest* may have some answers. In a completely secure social environment, where income, health and social security are all guaranteed by the State, and high life expectancy has ensured an expansion of an aged population, an elderly couple volunteer for a medical trial that would make them younger. After the first dose they are back to their after-college years. The man regrets his decision and wishes to return to his real age, but will now have to wait 50 years for it. The woman is more adventurous and takes more doses, progressively taking her through different stages of her past life right to her infancy. The impression left is, life without serious challenges can be boring.

Likewise, the South Korean film *Sleep* directed by Jason Yu, deals with REM sleep disorder, another common, urban malaise. The editing, sound and camera angles are done perfectly to heighten suspense and tension. But the sleep walker's behaviour soon turns eerie, eating raw meat in a trance while sleep-walking, even killing and stuffing their pet dog in the fridge. While the storytelling is electrifying, the way this common disorder is demonised is rather unfair to those who actually suffer from it.

On gender and women

Two films, by the name of *Endless Borders* and *The Peasant* probe the gender question in patriarchal societies. The first by Iranian director Abbas Amini tells of a community of Hazaras and Baloch who escape persecution by Pashtun dominated Taliban in Afghanistan to take shelter near the Iranian border. An activist cum Iranian teacher comes to work among them and soon discovers that a 16-year-old girl is the wife of an elderly ailing man fit to be her grandfather. She had been gifted to the man for a favour the latter did to her family. She has an affair with a young man and for this forbidden relation, comes under imminent threat of honour killing. The Iranian teacher helps them escape first to Iran and from there to Turkey. It is a touching story well told.

The second, *The Peasant*, co-directed by D.K. Welchman and Hugh Welchman, is set in early 20th century Poland. A young and talented girl has an affair with a married man, but ends up gifted as a wife to her lover's wealthy widower father, for a healthy dowry. After marriage, the girl resists but the affair with the younger man continues. After her husband's death, she becomes the object of hate and envy of the village, and on the charge of promiscuity, she is humiliated and banished from the village. Interestingly, chief among her vilest tormentors are women. The movie shows that the gatekeepers of oppressive patriarchy are equally women. Jean-Paul Sartre in his preface to Frantz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth* said as much. The oppressed, rather than sympathise, often become the bigger oppressor in acts of self-hate to destroy their own hated self-image they see in other victims.

However, a Peruvian movie *Once Upon a Time in the Andes* provides a different picture. Directed by Romulo Sulca, the film is set amid a war between Peru and Chile. The director chooses a completely amateur cast and this shows in the listless acting and emotionally flat dialogues. Cinematically, except for the stunning landscapes in full cinemascope, there is nothing much to write about. But the story is intriguing. A wounded Chilean soldier who escaped from a battlefield is rescued by a Quechuan shepherdess. Afraid of the consequence if he is discovered in their home, her father takes him to a cave where he is nurtured back to health. The girl also develops an intimate relation with the soldier. But the inevitable happens and he is discovered. A mob prepares to lynch him but the girl arrives and pleads that she is in a relationship with the man and is now expecting his child. The mob retreats, and the man is saved.

IFFI Goa truly took my daughter and I on a journey around the world in seven days.

Pradip Phanjoubam is Editor, Imphal Review of Arts and Politics.

The Archies: nostalgia for a probable past

If the series is supposed to be a rose-tinted view of a bygone era, it still begs the question of who is being celebrated

Mini Anthikad Chhibber

In the jolly, apocalyptic, slow burn (that is a cluster of contrary adjectives!) thriller, *Leave the World Behind*, 13-year-old Rose talks of her love for the popular sitcom, *Friends*, as being a nostalgia for a time that never existed.

Watching Zoya Akhtar's *The Archies*, which is supposed to a nostalgic tribute for people of a certain vintage, begs the question whose past the film celebrates. Archie Comics were first published in December 1941 in Pep Comics. The comics, set in the fictional town of Riverdale, told the story of an archetypal American teenager, the red-headed, freckled, Archie Andrews and his friends.

The cast of characters

The central conceit of the comics is the love triangle between Archie, the dark haired heiress, Veronica, and the blonde girl next door, Betty. Then there is the smooth and suave Reggie, Jughead, who loves his food and little else, Ethel who holds a candle forever for Jughead, Chuck the basketball star, nerdy Dilton, and Moose who is built like a truck but not the sharpest pencil in the box. Mr Weatherbee is the long-suffering principal of Riverdale High, and other teachers include Miss Grundy, Professor Flutesnoot, Coach Clayton, Miss Beazley, the gruff and terrible cook at the school cafeteria and Mr Svenson, the shy, thick-accented Swede. Of the parents in Riverdale, Veronica's father, Hiram Lodge, is constantly throwing Archie out, a dislike shared by the butler, Smithers.

Reality bites

Archie's problems are relatable to a certain type of teenager. There was a time when the world of Archie seemed more real than one's own. It seemed wonderful to hang out at Pop Tate's with friends planning the next day at the beach or who to take to the dance instead of worrying about cracking differential equations, dissections or osmosis – all guaranteed to get one into a medical or engineering college, the Holy Grail of scholastic achievement. The Archies' template can be seen in Hollywood in teen rom-coms to this day – what is *The Kissing Booth* or the *To All the Boys* film series, but a gender-swapped version of The Archies? The series *Riverdale* , re-imagined the characters with Jughead (Cole Sprouse) as the angsty narrator. The first few seasons worked, but the latter seasons devolved into all manner of silliness.

Forging a different path

In the world of Hindi cinema, Raj Kapoor's 1973 smash hit, *Bobby*, was apparently inspired by Archie comics. Dimple Kapadia's costumes – the shorts, mini dresses and the crop tops reveal flashes of Betty and Veronica. The tussle between the good girl, wicked vamp, and wholesome boy has played out ad nauseam in commercial cinema, which is probably why Akhtar chose not go down that road.

While choosing to go the period route is okay, if one cannot figure out whose memories are being mined, then it all becomes a rather detached, beautiful museum piece. We are not asking for a deep and meaningful anthropological side to our popcorn, we are just asking for an engaging story. In *The Archies*, the nepo baby cast sport period-appropriate costumes, which feel precisely that – costumes, not clothes. There is a self-consciousness about everything from the sets to the dialogue and the central conflict. A willing suspension of disbelief is all very well, but an audience is canny in spotting a lack of conviction, which *The Archies* has in spades.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

December 15 is the death anniversary of animator and entrepreneur Walt Disney. Here is a quiz in honour of the man who gave life to many of our favourite characters

Abhinaya. K

QUESTION 1
Loosely based on a fairy tale, this movie was the first full-length animated feature film produced by Walt Disney. A live action remake of the movie is in the works, with Greta Gerwig as one of the screenplay writers. Identify the film.

QUESTION 2
This animated superhero film released in 2004 became a cult classic and went on to win two Academy Awards. A sequel to the movie was released almost 14 years later. The director voiced a well-known character in the films called Edna Mode. Name the director and the film.

QUESTION 3
Corona, Arendelle, Agrabah, Maldonia and Atlantica. Identify the common link between these names.

QUESTION 4
The name of this character from *Finding Nemo* is said to be a nod to an iconic Steven Spielberg movie. Identify the character.

QUESTION 5
Which film was the last one personally supervised by Walt Disney before his death in 1966?

QUESTION 6
With a tall, slim physique and overbearing personality, this character was considered a rival of Mickey Mouse. Identify the character.

Visual question:
Wall-E is named after the legendary creator himself. Is the statement true or false? SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. Plutonium is an element with the highest _____ _____ to occur naturally. **Ans: Atomic number**
2. The colloquial names of the two bombs the U.S. dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. **Ans: Little Boy and Fat Man**
3. The plutonium delivered to the Manhattan Project contained a significant quantity of this isotope. **Ans: Plutonium-240**
4. Plutonium is hard to mould into different shapes because it has six _____ even at room pressure. **Ans: Allotropes**
5. These two robotic machines contain, among other things, 4.8 kg of plutonium-238 dioxide. **Ans: Curiosity and Perseverance rovers**
Visual: Name this American scientist. **Ans: Glenn Seaborg**
Early Bird: Subhash Jha

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

Belagavi stripping case: 'Victim's plight worse than what Draupadi faced'

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that it is not satisfied with the actions taken by the authorities after the incident of assault and stripping of a woman in Belagavi district came to light, the High Court of Karnataka on Thursday directed the State government to submit additional status report on whether proper counselling was provided to her, and why the remaining eight accused persons have not been arrested yet.

The court also wondered what had happened to the crime prevention apparatus of the police as the accused persons indulged in criminal activities, like damaging and ransacking the victim's house, dragging her on to the streets, stripping her, assaulting her and attempting to strangulate her prior to tying her to an electricity pole, for about two-and-a-half-hours, from 1 a.m. to 3.30 a.m.

"The status report is falling too short to refer to certain areas at this stage. It many not be appropriate to indicate these areas in our orders at this stage as we have already indicated them to the AG. Least we can say that we are not satisfied by the way things took place post the incident," the court said in its order.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice Krishna S. Dixit made these observations during the hearing of a PIL petition, initiated suo moto by the court based on newspaper report on stripping of the victim in Vantamuri village after her son eloped with a girl from the same village.

"Why did it take more than two hours for the police to come to know about the incident when an issue like eloping spread like wildfire in small villages? The status report is silent on helping victim through counselling to overcome her trauma. Why are the remaining accused still at large?" the Bench asked after the Advocate-General Shashi Kiran Shetty said that police came to know about the incident only around 3.20 a.m. and eight persons, including four women, have been already arrested.

The Bench orally observed that the incident was "worse than what happened to Draupadi in Mahabharat as Lord Krishna had come to her rescue but in Belagavi incident no one came to the rescue of the victim in the modern world of Dhuryodhanas and Dhushyasanas".

Shows male chauvinism

"I am sorry to say that the incident shows male chauvinism... It gives a danger signal that there is no fear of law. It is unfortunate that it happened in the progressive State of Karnataka. All our achievement as a country will fail due to such incidents... We are not worthy of calling ourselves human beings," the Chief Justice observed.

The Bench also asked what the State Commission for Women and the State Human Rights Commission are doing about the incident.

"Did any of these commissions take cognisance of the incident? Such commissions sometimes act based on television debates," the Bench noted.

PCPNDT violations: Only 100 cases filed in 21 years across Karnataka

No case in 14 districts, while one case each has been filed in six districts; the highest number of cases has been booked in Bengaluru Urban

Afshan Yasmeen
BENGALURU

Despite the State struggling to arrest a steady decline in the child sex ratio from 934 in 2019 to 929 in 2022 (for every 1,000 males as per CRS data), Karnataka's Health Department has booked only 100 violation cases of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Act, 1994, since 2002.

This gains significance in the light of the recent unearthing of a sex determination racket across Bengaluru, Mandya, and Mysuru districts.

The Bengaluru police recently arrested a doctor and his lab technician who allegedly performed around 900 illegal abortions in the last three years.. Following this, the State government has ordered a CID probe and has announced the setting up of a task force to check female foeticide.

A file photo of a protest being carried out against sex selection. Karnataka has been struggling to arrest the decline in the child sex ratio from 934 (for every 1,000 males) in 2019 to 929 in 2022.

Of the 100 violations, the accused have been convicted under the Act in a mere 15, while in 76 cases the accused were acquitted indicating that implementation of the PCPNDT Act - that prohibits sex determination - is a daunting task for officials. The remaining cases are pending in courts.

Attributing this to limited provisions under the Act for collaboration between the Health Department and the police, officials said this is making monitoring difficult.

According to official data, not a single case was booked in 14 districts in the last 21 years, while one case each was filed in six districts.

While the most cases have been booked in Bengaluru Urban (31), Belagavi and Vijayapura follow with 15 and 14, respectively.

Under the PCPNDT Act, the State Appropriate Authority assisted by the district-level PCPNDT advisory committees and inspection and monitoring committees play a key role in preventing sex determination and female foeticide.

Although officials claimed that these committees are actively functioning, there are allegations that most are in limbo.

While these committees are supposed to conduct regular inspections of the diagnostic and scanning centres to prevent female foeticide, sources said last year only 14% of the inspection target was met. Till June this year, 20% of the target was met.

Admitting there are challenges in implementing the Act effectively, State Health Commissioner Randeep D. told *The Hindu* that coordination between the police and the Health Department needs to improve. "While stricter sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) need to be levied - such as Section 315, 316 (non bailable / cognizable) - more number of inspection teams are needed. Intensified awareness and informants reaching out to us will help plan more decoy operations," the Commissioner said.

Vivek Dorai, State Deputy Director (Medical Acts), said the proposed State task force headed by the Health Commissioner will be the overall monitoring body for effective implementation of PCPNDT Act.

Presently, the advisory committees are under Project Director (Reproductive Child Health). The task force will be the nodal body that will supervise and monitor their functioning and also interact with districts for effective implementation, he said.

Meanwhile, like-minded civil society groups and women organisations have come together to recommend amendments to the PCPNDT Act.

"We held a meeting and we are planning to submit a memorandum to the Health Minister seeking certain amendments to the Act," said Vasundhara Bhupathi, former member of the State Advisory Committee.

Govt. proposes amending law to end female foeticide

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The Karnataka government on Thursday announced a slew of measures to put an end to female foeticide, including amending the legislation concerned to make it more effective, formulating a new policy and setting up a State-level task force.

Announcing this while replying to members cutting across party affiliations who expressed concern over the increasing cases of female foeticide, Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao said the measures would be in addition to the CID probe that has already been ordered. He said amendments to the legislation concerned would be effected in consultation with the Health and Law Departments.

The government would also come out with a policy to prevent female foeticide while the proposed State-level task force would help in swiftly acting against any violations, he noted. He was also considering setting up sub-division level monitoring committees besides deploying an ACP to deal exclusively with cases of female foeticide, he said. The Minister announced that the call centre for the Health Department which would resume from next month would also cater to instances of female foeticide.

Earlier, the Opposition members led by Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok demanded an investigation by a Special Investigation Team (SIT) into the episode of female foeticides.

Female foeticides were affecting the gender ratio, he said, while pointing out that the population of women per 1,000 men had come down from 1,029 in 2015-16 to 797 in 2019-20 in Davanagere and 928 to 781 in the same period in Ramanagara.

Another abortion racket unearthed at private hospital

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Health Department officials found a fresh female foetus in the dustbin of the hospital during a raid

Close on the heels of the city police unearthing an inter-city sex determination and abortion racket this November, Health Department officials uncovered another abortion racket run at a private hospital on the outskirts of the city during a routine inspection at SPG Hospital and Diagnostic Centre in Anugondanahalli on Wednesday.

Health Department officials found a fresh female foetus in the dustbin of the hospital during the raid.

Following instructions from the department, the officials carried random inspections at the private hospital and found a scanning machine operating illegally at the hospital.

The health officials alerted the district health officials who went to seize the machine.

They found the foetus and are now questioning the staff.

Inquiries revealed that the hospital belonged to Srinivas who was running the racket with the help of seven staff members, including a lab technician, two nurses, and housekeeping staff.

Based on a complaint, the police have taken up case under Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques Act, and efforts are on to track down the doctor who is on the run.

"We have detained the staff for questioning and legal action will be initiated based on their role in the racket," Mallikarjun Baldandi, Superintendent of police, Bengaluru Rural, said.

IISc. scientists develop technique to encapsulate liquid droplets used for various applications

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have developed a novel technique to encapsulate liquid droplets used for various applications, including single crystal growth and cell culture.

"The technique exploits the capillary effect – the rise of a liquid through a narrow space – to coat droplets in a composite shell containing oil-loving and hydrophobic particles. It offers the ability to tune the shell thickness over a wide range, allowing the encapsulation of droplets of different sizes," said IISc.

The study was published in *Nature Communications*.

Droplets are important in a variety of fields. "In microreactors, droplets can be used to create different reaction environments or mix different chemicals. In drug delivery systems, droplets can be used to deliver drugs or other agents to specific tissues or organs. In crystallisation studies, droplets can be used to control the growth of crystals. And in cell culture platforms, droplets can be used to grow cells in a controlled environment, which can help to improve cell viability and proliferation," said lead researcher Rutvik Lathia, a PhD student at the Centre for Nano Science and Engineering (CeNSE), IISc.

However, there are several challenges in using such droplets. They are vulnerable to contamination from the ambient environment, the ease and success of a particular process depends a lot on the surface they're dropped on, and they can vanish into thin air pretty fast. While encapsulating droplets with liquids or solids that don't mix with the droplets (like water droplets inside an oil shell) is a plausible solution to avoid these issues, making a shell that is hardy, continuous and has an adjustable thickness at a super tiny scale has proven elusive so far.

To address these challenges, Prosenjit Sen, Associate Professor at CeNSE, and his team have developed a new capillary force-assisted cloaking method to trap droplets within colloidal particles and liquid-infused surfaces.

The researchers used these coated droplets to grow single crystals successfully.

Timings
BENGALURU

FRIDAY, DEC. 15	
RISE	06:33 SET 17:56
RISE	08:48 SET 20:23
SATURDAY, DEC. 16	
RISE	06:34 SET 17:56
RISE	09:45 SET 21:27
SUNDAY, DEC. 17	
RISE	06:34 SET 17:57
RISE	10:36 SET 22:27

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	30	22
Mysuru	29	21
Bengaluru	27	18

Bengaluru Today
28°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be slight cool.Day will be comfortable. Night also will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C A mostly dry weather to prevail. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant.

© Copyright Skymet Weather 2023
All rights reserved.

THE HINDU
DISCLAIMER: Readers are requested to verify and make appropriate enquiries to satisfy themselves about the veracity of an advertisement before responding to any published in this newspaper. THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., the Publisher & Owner of this newspaper, does not vouch for the authenticity of any advertisement or advertiser or for any of the advertiser's products and/or services. In no event can the Owner, Publisher, Printer, Editor, Director/s, Employees of this newspaper/company be held responsible/liable in any manner whatsoever for any claims and/or damages for advertisements in this newspaper.

State Bank of India
Premises & Estate Department
Local Head Office II Floor, Annex Building No.65 St. Marks Road
Bengaluru 560 001

Notice for Short Tender

State Bank of India invites sealed tenders in TWO BID SYSTEM in printing and distribution of Bank utility calendars for the year 2024 on total cost basis from Karnataka based printers who have successfully completed printing of calendars earlier in any Public sector undertaking/ Commercial Bank. For further details please log on to our website www.bank.sbi under SBI in the News > Tenders Awarded > Procurement News or contact Premises & Estates Department, LHO Bengaluru on 080-25944120. The Bank reserves the right to accept/reject any/all tenders without assigning any reason therefore. Last date for submission of technical bid is 18.12.2023.

Assistant General Manager,
Premises & Estates Department,
LHO, Bengaluru.

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF, PUBLIC HEALTH
ODISHA, BHUBANESWAR
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING THROUGH e-PROCUREMENT
Invitation For Bids (IFB) Dtd.13.12.2023

SN	Name of Work	Bid Identification No.	Estimated Cost (Rs. in Lakh)	Class of Contractor	Period of Completion	Availability of Bid Document for Online Bidding From	To
1.	Improvement of Infrastructure for Water Supply to Bargarh Town including O&M for 5 Years under AMRUT 2.0 SWAP-I	EICPH-08/2023-24	4015.86	Spl. Class & Super Class	15 (Fifteen) Months	11.00 Hrs. of 20.12.2023	17.00 Hrs. of 08.01.2024
2.	Improvement of Water Supply to Chatrapur NAC including O&M for 5 Years under AMRUT 2.0 SWAP-I	EICPH-09/2023-24	1034.23	'A' Class & Special Class	12 (Twelve) Months	11.00 Hrs. of 21.12.2023	17.00 Hrs. of 09.01.2024
3.	Improvement of Water Supply to Phulbani Municipality including O&M for 5 Years under AMRUT 2.0 SWAP-I	EICPH-10/2023-24	1655.67	'A' Class & Special Class	18 (Eighteen) Months	11.00 Hrs. of 22.12.2023	17.00 Hrs. of 10.01.2024

Name & Address of Officer Inviting Bid: **The Engineer-In-Chief (PH)**
Office of The Engineer-in-Chief, PH
1st Floor, Unnati Bhawan, Satyanagar,
Bhubaneswar, Odisha - 751007.
Phone : #91-674-2575309,
email : eicphodisha@gmail.com

❖ Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal **"https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in".**
❖ **All amendments, time extension, clarifications etc. will be uploaded in the website only. Bidders should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated.**

C-2109 OIPR-10243/11/0002/2324 ENGINEER-IN-CHIEF (PH)

Raichur Bio Energies Private Limited
Sy No's 136/1, 136/3, 138/1, 138/2, 138/3, 139/1, 139/2 & 140/2 Yedlapur Village, Shakthinagar, Raichur District, Karnataka 584170.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform that M/s. Raichur Bio Energies Private Limited has been accorded Environmental Clearance (EC) Identification No. EC23C2505KA5390172N dated 08/12/2023 for the proposed distillery project at Sy No. 136/1, 136/3, 138/1, 138/2, 138/3, 139/1, 139/2 & 140/2 Yedlapur Village, Shakthinagar, Raichur District, Karnataka 584 170.

By Government of India, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The copies of the clearance letter are available with the SPCB/Committee and may also be seen at Website of the Minstry and at https://parivesh.nic.in/.

Government of Karnataka
Hindu Religious Institutions & Charitable Endowment Department

MAHATHOBHARA KUKKE SHREE SUBRAHMANYA TEMPLE
Subrahmanya, Kadaba Taluk, D. K. District - 574238.
Website : www.temples.karnataka.gov.in
Email : eokukkesubrahmanya@gmail.com Ph : 08257-236200 / 281224

ANNUAL CHAMPASHASHTI MAHOTHSAVAM - 2023

will commence on 10th December 2023 Sunday and will continue till 24th December 2023 Sunday

All are cordially invited to Kukke Subrahmanya Temple for the festivals with family and friends and requested to partake the holy Prasadam and also have blessings of Lord Shree Subrahmanya.

UTHSAVAMS

16-12-2023	Saturday	Flower Chariot Uthsavam
17-12-2023	Sunday	Night Panchami Rathothsavam, Thailabhyanjana
18-12-2023	Monday	Champa Shashti Maha Rathothsavam
19-12-2023	Tuesday	Avabruthothsavam, Nowka Vihara

Kiru Shashti Uthsavam will be celebrated on 16-01-2024

Sri H. Basavarajendra, IAS
Commissioner, Hindu Religious Institutions & Charitable Endowment Department,Bengaluru
Dr. Ningaiah, M.A., GDC
Executive Officer, Kukke Shri Subrahmanya Temple
Sri Rajanna
Assistant Executive Officer
& Staff, Kukke Shri Subrahmanya Temple

Sri Mullai Muhilan M. P., IAS
Deputy Commissioner, Dakshina Kannada District
Mohanram S. Sulli
Chairman, Committee of Management Kukke Shri Subrahmanya Temple
Members of the Committee of Management
Seetharama Yedapadithaya, Lokesh, Smt. Vanaja V. Bhat, Smt. Shobha S.G., Manohara Rai, P.G.S.N, Prasad, Darbe Prasanna, Shrivathsa V.
All Members of the Committee of Masterplan

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

New cyber threats catch info-tech city unawares

In the context of the recent hoax bomb threat email that around 70 schools in and around Bengaluru received and the chaos it unleashed in the IT city, **K.V. Aditya Bharadwaj and Jahnavi T.R.** look at the emerging nature of cyber threats and assess the infrastructural readiness to face new challenges

"I was in the middle of my yoga class when I received a call from my children's schools informing me they would be sent home due to a 'bomb threat'. I immediately rushed to my daughter's school while my husband went to my son's school to get them home. Later, we learnt that the threats were a hoax, but when I received that call, panic set in within a second," said Gowri Raj, a resident of Yelahanka, about 20 kilometres from the city centre, remembering the events of December 1.

She was not alone. Nearly 70 schools in and around Bengaluru received the same "bomb threat email" from kharijiites@beeble.com on December 1. It threatened to kill "you and your children" and said, "From Buddha to infinity they will fly apart from our explosions". It even targeted Zionists and signed off with "Allahu Akbar".

The children had been in school for just an hour or so. Bengaluru, the IT capital of the country, plunged into chaos and was gripped by panic in a matter of minutes. Even parents who hadn't received intimations from their children's schools were alerted by rolling television coverage. They rushed there and demanded that they be allowed to take their wards back home.

Schools were milling with police officials and bomb detection and disposal squads while children huddled in playgrounds and other open spaces. The threats turned out to be a hoax. However, over 1 lakh children returned home within hours of that email.

> A person sitting somewhere, hiding behind the anonymity that VPNs provide, took just a few minutes to send the IT capital of India, a city of nearly 14 million and a growth engine of the country, into a tizzy. It is pretty low-tech. This is the best illustration of how asymmetric cyber threats are.
> A senior police official

Probes hit dead end

As the city went into a tizzy that Friday morning, there was also a sense of *deja vu*. On April 8, 2022, over 20 schools received a similar bomb threat email, which also eventually turned out to be a hoax. The December 1 drill was just a repeat of what unfolded last year in more ways than one.

Over a month after Bengaluru schools received the threat last year, schools in Bhopal received similar hoax bomb email threats in May 2022. This time around, the email to Bengaluru schools was preceded by a similar hoax bomb threat email to 51 schools in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; to several schools in Jamaica in November; and to several schools in Germany in October. The email to Bengaluru and Kuala Lumpur schools was sent from a Cyprus-based email service provider, Beeble.com.

In the 2022 case, the email was initially traced to Syria, but as more layers of the Virtual Private Network (VPN) were uncovered, the trail finally went cold in Pakistan. "We couldn't trace the final user who sent the mail from across the border. We gave our inputs to central security agencies and are unaware of further developments," said an officer involved in that probe.

The email sent to schools on December 1 differed in their tone in how they had an Islamist slant. However, given that similar emails were sent to different targets across three months, police suspect this is a new kind of "cyber terrorism" to send bustling cities into panic.

Queries with Beeble.com, through which the December 1 email was sent, revealed that the user had used the Switzerland-based Proton Virtual Private Network (VPN), a company that has a "no-logs policy". "We are not hopeful that the company will give us any useful information that will lead to the identity of the email sender," a senior police official said.

Commotion at a school in Bengaluru after it received a bomb threat email on December 1. PTI

Changing nature of cyber threats

"A person sitting somewhere, hiding behind the anonymity that VPNs provide, took just a few minutes to send the IT capital of India, a city of nearly 14 million and a growth engine of the country, into a tizzy. It is pretty low-tech. This is the best illustration of how asymmetric cyber threats are," said a senior police official with considerable experience in fighting cybercrime.

If a hoax bomb threat can send an entire city into a tailspin, imagine what can happen if a city's power grid is hacked and shut down as a result. That's precisely what happened in Mumbai on October 13, 2020. A cyber attack on the city's power grid brought the country's financial capital to a halt for nearly half a day. The famed local trains stopped, and the stock exchange shut down, even as hospitals struggled to keep ventilators running.

The attack was reportedly traced to state actors in China, reported *The New York Times* in February 2021, a claim acknowledged by Ministers in the government of Maharashtra. India and China relations were tense in October 2020 over the Galwan Valley clash.

Several key cyber attacks were reported on critical information infrastructure in India in recent years: on the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant in 2019, on Goa's flood monitoring system in 2020, ransomware attacks on nationally important institutions like New Delhi-based All India Institute of Medical Sciences and Bengaluru-based National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences in 2022. The Karnataka State Data Centre, the information nerve centre of the Government of Karnataka, fell prey to the WannaCry ransomware attack in 2017.

"The trade-off of going more and more digital is like dining with the devil. It is a cat and mouse game, and who wins is always a function of who is ahead of the curve, and the adversary always has an advantage," said Tobby Simon, founder-president, Synergia Foundation, a Bengaluru-based strategic think tank specialising in cyber security, with over three decades of experience.

Institutional vacuum

Synergia Foundation organised a roundtable meeting for the top bureaucrats of the State and honchos of Bengaluru Inc. in 2018, posing a simple question: "Who cares, and who do you call in case of a cyber attack on critical information infrastructure?" That question hasn't found a satisfactory answer in Karnataka to this day.

"We have just been lucky that there has been no major attack on our critical infrastructure. Given that our State data centre had a ransomware attack, we are not equipped to prevent it or handle its aftermath efficiently. There are no standard operating procedures (SOPs) and a set chain of command or architecture in place to handle such crises in the State," said a senior police official who is a cybercrime expert.

A national cyber security architecture has recently evolved – the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), which coordinates cybercrime investigations, and the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre (NCIIPC), with which States have been coordinating. But multiple police officials and e-governance experts said a similar architecture was needed at the State level. That is missing in Karnataka, even as Maharashtra and Odisha have taken the lead in this avenue.

Multiple proposals from the Karnataka State Police and e-Governance Department to set up a cyber security architecture like I4C and NCIIPC have been ignored. The Cyber Security Policy 2023, still in the draft stage, does provide a State Cyber Security Committee led by the Chief Secretary but doesn't include the Karnataka State Police and has come under criticism over it by the police, who are at the forefront of fighting cybercrimes, cyber security breaches, and now cyber terrorism.

"What we need is a two-organisation set-up. One organisation that coordinates and has adequate skill sets for cybercrime probes also houses a command centre to handle any crisis in the state. Another organisation needs to proactively ensure that our critical information infrastructure – like our power grids, flood management systems, metro and railway signals, and traffic management systems – is safe.

We must ethically hack our systems, identify vulnerabilities, and patch up our bugs and gaps. That is the only way we can stay ahead of the curve," said a senior police official.

Officials responsible for cyber security and fighting cybercrime said there was a lack of understanding of these ideas in the government across parties. "Unless a big attack happens, there seems to be a lack of receptiveness to these ideas, even though the vulnerability of Bengaluru to such attacks is very high. This is like waiting for your first accident to get insurance. But often, that is how it works. Maharashtra is now investing over ₹800 crore in a Computer Emergency Response Team - Maharashtra (CERT-MH) after the 2020 power grid attack," a senior official said.

In the Budget the then Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai presented in February 2023, he proposed to set up a Cyber Security Operation Centre (CSOC) at a cost of ₹20 crore. This followed a proposal by the Karnataka State Police and was on the lines of I4C and NCIIPC. However, Bommai was voted out in May, and incumbent Chief Minister Siddaramaiah junked the February Budget and presented a new one in July in which the CSOC proposal was dropped.

Tobby Simon of Synergia Foundation said most of the organisations set up by the governments tended to be "post-facto" crisis management groups but said what was needed was a "thinking organisation" that doesn't work to solve the problem at hand but thinks ahead of the curve and tries to anticipate and solve the next issue. "The key thing in this cat-and-mouse game is thought leadership," he said.

"For instance, all our cyber security is based on encryptions and passwords. The advent of artificial intelligence and quantum computing has made decryption so much easier and fast. We now need to prepare for a post-AI and quantum age cyber security," he said.

The E-Governance Department is now working on initiating "purple teaming", where government teams ethically hack their critical information infrastructure to expose the chinks to fix them, among a host of other initiatives. Cyber Security Policy 2023 in the offing is expected to give a big fillip for the government's cyber security culture. However, many in the field pointed out the need for more collaboration between the e-Governance Department and Karnataka State Police in the State.

Schools pick up the pieces

"Schools and colleges are easy targets for people deliberately trying to disrupt peace and harmony. But we cannot take even a single thing lightly. As schools, we have maximum security, and we even have strong firewalls for cyber security. Yet, we cannot control emails," said Mansoor Ali Khan, trustee and member of the management board, Delhi Public School. One of the group's branches had also received a threat on the day.

"Once such threats come in, schools take two to three days to return to normalcy, and children start panicking. These things greatly impact students, especially as it is the second or third time something like this has happened in the last few months. It affects their confidence. We have to counsel and talk to them patiently," Khan said.

The management from some other schools reported that while the students were mature enough to understand that the threats were a hoax, the security on the premises was beefed up, nevertheless.

"We already had 20 security guards and around 400 cameras on campus. We have never let anyone come to the campus without prior appointments and ID verification. Now, after this incident, we have employed three additional security guards, a few night guards, and also installed extra night lights," said Nooraine Fazal, co-founder, CEO, and managing trustee, Inventure Academy, also a school that received a bomb threat on December 1.

Following these events, the Department of School Education and Literacy also recently issued a circular, reiterating an earlier regulation that the school premises, including the playgrounds attached to them, only be used for educational purposes and not be rented out. Additionally, the private schools in the city also demanded that the State government roll out a 'School Safety Policy' which provides legal security to students, staff, management, and the school's property.

Four artistes open up on their respective films and how world cinema shaped their filmmaking sense

Mixed bag of goodies

Vivek MV
vivek.mv@thehindu.co.in

"You make your first film only once. Once you get past it, you get into the business aspect of cinema, and that's when the artistic side begins to die," says director Nithin Krishnamurthy, during *The Hindu's* Kannada cinema round table held at the Courtyard in Bengaluru. It is with this innocence that all the participants of the round table – Nithin (director, *Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare),* Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy (director, *Aachar & Co),* Rukmini Vasanth (actor, *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello)* and Shashank Soghal (director, *Daredevil Musthafa)* – emerged as some of the unique talents from the Kannada film industry in 2023.

Sindhu grew up watching Anant Nag's Ganesha series. "It was interesting that the hero was not a larger-than-life figure. But I felt the production value of Kannada films could go up, as they lacked aesthetics," she says. Sindhu's *Aachar & Co,* a family drama set in the '60s and '70s, had striking sets and cinematography, much like a Wes Anderson film.

A Wes Anderson touch

"What I enjoyed in Wes Anderson films is that he leaves his stamp in all his works. A lot of attention goes into the music, costumes, and cinematography. Even in humour, the comedy is awkward, with many in-between funny moments," Sindhu says.

Nithin, who ensures he watches one film every day, adores Edgar Wright and Upendra. "I felt filmmakers tried to offer us wholesome entertainers. You can make an entertainer in the violent genre like Quentin Tarantino does," says Nithin. His idiosyncratic *Hostel Hudugaru Bekagiddare,* a comedy on what unfolds one night at a hostel, pays homage to all his favourite filmmakers.

Influence of theatre

Shashank is a stage actor and loves plays. "You learn the nuances of cinema through theatre," he says. His *Daredevil Musthafa* was adapted from Poornachandra Tejaswi's short story, a college drama with a message of communal harmony. Shashank says that he had a complex over Kannada films when in college. "My friends would tease me because many remakes were made in Kannada back then. In that sense, I would say I learnt a lot from bad films."

Rukmini, basking in the success of the two-part *Sapta Sagaradaache Ello* (*SSE Side A & Side B*), says she missed watching intense love stories in Kannada, when she was young. "The love angle was just part of our films; we would hardly see filmmakers exploring a love story in its entirety."

Each of the artistes had to overcome challenges specific to their projects. Sindhu made a film with an almost all-woman team, while Shashank was nervous till the release of *Daredevil Musthafa* since it had a politically relevant theme.

"I didn't make this film because the story was political. When I read the story, it changed my world view, and eventually, I was happy with how the people of Karnataka responded to it," he admits.

Rukmini adds that she took away many learnings from *SSE*. "I realised that, unlike in theatre, you have to take the burden off yourself and tell yourself that other aspects of filmmaking will take care of the proceedings."

Nithin's film broke the traditional rules of filmmaking. "I was worried that film-goers would find it hard to comprehend my movie. But, maybe because of the exposure on films people have through OTT platforms, they loved my film," he says.

All four artistes concluded that they were keen to put out quality work to stay relevant in the industry.

Snapshots from the year Stills from movies by Shashank Soghal, Nithin Krishnamurthy, Sindhu Sreenivasa Murthy and Rukmini Vasanth (seated clockwise below). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

STEPOUT

Christmas cheer

Maverick & Farmer is introducing The Christmas Three, a limited menu of seasonal beverages that capture the essence of the holiday spirit. These come in the flavours of nutmeg jam affogato, coffee cascara and mulled coffee cherry. Apart from these is the limited edition Christmas blend pour-over with notes of cinnamon and fruit cake, that can be enjoyed both hot and iced. A limited edition menu of roast chicken with gravy and Christmas stuffing is also available between 8.30am and 10pm.

It's cake-o-clock

Lavonne Academy of Baking Science and Pastry Arts is hosting its annual bake sale today. There will be lemon coconut swirl cookies, apple crumble bars, tea cakes, muffins, and more. Proceeds from the sale will go to Jyothi Seva, a charitable organisation that supports the visually challenged. *December 15, 2pm onwards at Bangalore International Centre.*

War of worlds

Hartman De Souza's play, *Soldiers' Silence*, tells the story of a chance encounter between an American soldier and an Iraqi militant

Shilpa Anandraj
shilpa.anandraj@thehindu.co.in

Journalist, educationist and theatre veteran Hartman De Souza's play *Soldier's Silence* will be staged in Bengaluru on December 16 and 20. The play will be presented by theatre actors Shivam Sardana from Pune and Sahej Aziz from Punjab, both schoolmates and friends of Hartman.

"This is our fifth show in Bengaluru," says Sahej, from Delhi airport in transit to Bengaluru from Punjab. "It is special for us as Hartman lived in Bengaluru for 20 years before he moved to Pune. *Soldiers' Silence* is his seminal play, which was written 10 years ago but never performed. It was only when Shivam reached out that we got together with Hartman and started working. Unfortunately, even as the rehearsals began, Hartman fell ill and was hospitalised. We did not want to stop the work. Encouraged by his family, we directed the play ourselves."

Sahej says the credit for their direction should go to Hartman as he has written a play that lends itself easily to theatre.

The play tells of a chance encounter between an American soldier and an Iraqi militant in a forsaken Indian airport that even lacks electricity. "The men are injured and are in the waiting lounge. They get talking and discuss personal and universal topics including love, family, countries and war."

Universal truths Sahej and Shivam in the play (left); Hartman De Souza (below). SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The irony, Sahej says, is that the dark airport waiting lounge becomes a battlefield and ends in violence because of differing perceptions of notions of war and masculinity. "The irony is that through their anger and hatred, the idea of the futility of war comes forth."

The play has a minimal set up, says Sahej. "All we have on the stage are two chairs and two actors – Shivam and myself. With bare light and sound, the entire drama plays out between these two men on their respective chairs. It is a purely performance-driven play."

The performances are backed and presented by Space Theatre Ensemble, the theatre group born out of Space A Society For Promoting Arts Culture And Education, a Goa-based NGO.

The play will be staged at Medai - The Stage, Koramangala (December 16, 3pm and 7pm. Tickets on Bookmyshow.com) and at Bangalore International Centre, Domlur on (December 20, Open to all).

Midnight delight

The city's running community awaits the 16th edition of the Bengaluru Midnight Marathon (BMM), scheduled for December 16 at the Karnataka Trade Promotion Organisation (KTPO) in Whitefield. This year, the event promises an extraordinary experience with the introduction of the Rotary 5K Run, dedicated to Rotary International President Gordon McInally, who will flag off the Full Marathon at 11.15pm.

Aligned with the theme Run for Mental Wellness, and acknowledging the role of physical activity in mental health, BMM 2023 aims to promote a healthier body and a happier mind. This year, the timed Rotary 5K Run has prize money awards in four categories for both men and women.

The Bengaluru Midnight Marathon is the flagship fundraising event for the Rotary Bangalore IT Corridor's social service projects.

The registration for the Fun and Furious 5K Run is open until today.

For details, visit www.midnightmarathon.in.

‘State’s start-up funding has seen 80% dip and FDI down by 46% due to global slowdown’

Bengaluru, known as India’s start-up capital, is facing the impact of global challenges: Mid-Year Review of State Finances

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Start-up funding has dropped by $2.8 billion from $3.4 billion in the first half of the previous year to $0.6 billion in the first half of the current financial year, according to Mid-Year Review of State Finances.
GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

Though Karnataka’s economic growth is steady, stable, and resilient, start-up funding in the State has dropped by about 80% and foreign direct investment (FDI) has reduced by 46% in the first half of the financial year as a result of the slowdown in advanced global economies, according to Mid-Year Review (MYR) of State Finances 2023-24.

The MYR, which was tabled in the State legislature on Thursday, says that start-up funding has dropped by $2.8 billion from $3.4 billion in the first half of the previous year to $0.6 billion in the first half of the current financial year. It says that FDIs in Karnataka have dropped by $2.5 billion from $5.3 billion in the first half of the previous financial year to $2.8 billion in the first half of the present financial year.

Bengaluru, renowned as India’s start-up capital and home to 40% of India’s unicorns, is facing the impact of global challenges, the review notes. Karnataka being the IT hub of India with a majority of global IT companies headquartered in Bengaluru amplifies the impact of such global factors, it adds.

Impact of conflicts

Putting the decline in FDI and start-up funding in a global perspective, the review notes that the IMF has projected the global growth to decrease from 3.5% in 2022 to 3% in 2023 and to slow down further to 2.9% in 2024. While the outlook for global trade is downcast due to dismal global demand, the global supply chain and trade outlook is adversely impacted due to the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict and the conflict between Israel and Palestine.

At the same time, the State Own Tax Revenue increased by 15% in the first half of 2023-24 compared with the corresponding period in the previous year. State non-tax revenue for the same period showed a growth of 14%. Overall, the revenue receipts have increased by 5% compared with the corresponding period in the previous year, the MYR states.

Karnataka, which has budgeted gross borrowing of ₹78,363 crore from the Open Market in the current fiscal, has not borrowed from the market in the first half of the year. Considering the cash position, borrowings will be undertaken in the last two quarters only on necessity basis and within the permissible limit, the MYR notes.

State’s revenue expenditure for the first six months of 2023-24 stands at ₹98,070 crore which is 39% of the total Budget estimates. Growth of 13% has been seen in the revenue expenditure as compared with the first half of 2022-23, the review report points out.

Monsoon impact

The review has observed that the failure of the southwest monsoon has adversely impacted agricultural production and hydroelectricity generation which in turn poses an adverse risk to the State’s economic growth.

The initial estimates have put the crop losses for the kharif season at ₹33,770.10 crore, the review points out.

Five guarantees will boost economic growth in short run, says Mid-Year Review

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

It is expected that the five guarantee schemes would not only lead to distributive justice but also boost the economic growth of the State in the short run by increasing consumption, according to the Mid-Year Review of State finances 2023-24 that was tabled in the Assembly on Thursday.

However, with necessary structural reforms and enhanced Ease of Doing Business coupled with higher capital expenditure, the State is expected to maintain a high growth trajectory in the long run, the report observes.

Positive influence

Karnataka’s model of development which includes guarantee schemes is positively influencing the State economy and is contributing to the increase in the GSDP. The guarantee schemes aim to support the underprivileged with monetary support, increasing their purchasing power and boosting economic activity that will in-turn lead to economic growth, the MYR states.

The guarantee schemes would have a multiplier effect on the local economy and thereby boost the consumer spending and revenue of the State as most of the households covered under these schemes belong to poor/lower middle-income sections who have higher propensity to consume, says the review.

Women in labour force

The guarantee of free bus travel is expected to improve the participation of women in the labour force and thereby boost the income of the households as well as economy, the review says.

SC/ST funds: CM challenges Centre, BJP-ruled States to enact legislation

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok in the Legislative Assembly in Belagavi on Thursday.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Thursday challenged the Union government and BJP-ruled State governments to enact legislation on the lines of the Karnataka Scheduled Castes Sub-Allocation & Tribal-Sub Allocation (Planning, Allocation and Utilisation of Financial Resources) Act, 2013, to ensure allocation of budget in proportion to the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for their welfare programmes.

Moving the Karnataka Appropriation (No-4) Bill, 2023 (or supplementary estimates approved by the Legislative Assembly) in the Legislative Council for the approval of the House, he said that it was the Congress government which enacted the legislation to ensure that funds earmarked under the SCSP-TSP should be used only for the welfare of SCs and STs.

The Chief Minister said that Karnataka government spent about ₹22,000 crore for the SC and ST welfare programmes in five years from 2008 to 2013 (BJP tenure) before enacting the legislation. If the population of SCs and STs stood at 17.1 %, the amount spent on their welfare programmes stood at 15 %. After the Act came into force the amount spent on the welfare of SCs and STs went up to ₹ 82,000 crore during 2013-2018 (during the Congress regime). “This itself revealed how the legislation helped in the allocation of funds for the welfare of deprived sections of society,” the Chief Minister said.

When the BJP members accused the Congress government of “diverting” the SC/ST sub-plan money to implement its guarantee schemes, the Chief Minister hit back and said, “What moral right do you have to speak on social justice? We (Congress) are committed to social justice by enacting a legislation.”

Mr. Siddaramaiah questioned the BJP members why they did not prevail upon the Union government to enact a legislation on the lines of Karnataka if the BJP is committed to provide social justice to the deprived sections.

After heated arguments between the Opposition and the treasury benches, the House approved the Bill.

Govt. wants to meet PM over Upper Bhadra, Mekedatu projects: DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar said on Thursday that the State government wants to take a delegation to meet Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discuss matters pertaining to the Upper Bhadra and Mekedatu projects.

Replying to questions by N. Ravi Kumar, T.A. Sharavana and Chidananda M. Gowda over irrigation matters during the Question Hour in the Legislative Council, the Deputy Chief Minister said that Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had announced ₹5,300 crore for Upper Bhadra Irrigation Project in the 2023-24 Budget. But no money has been released so far. “You also join the delegation,” Mr. Shivakumar invited the Opposition members who questioned the government over release of Cauvery water, progress in Mekedatu project and funds allocated to Upper Bhadra Project.

Assembly adopts three Bills, including Advocates Bill

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

The Karnataka Assembly on Thursday adopted three Bills, including the Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Advocates Bill, that seeks to prohibit violence against advocates besides providing protection to them.

The Karnataka Prohibition of Violence Against Advocates Bill, piloted by Law Minister H.K. Patil, defines violence against advocates and also prescribes punishment with imprisonment for a term which may extend from six months to three years, or with fine which may extend to ₹1 lakh or both.

Whenever an advocate is arrested by the police with respect to a cognizable offence, the police are required to intimate it to the President or Secretary of the Advocates’ Association in which such an advocate is a member, as per the Bill.

The Bill also states that every offence punishable under this legislation shall be tried by the court not below the Court of Judicial Magistrate of First Class.

The Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements (Second Amendment) Bill, which too was adopted by the House, seeks to provide reservation to OBC communities in government’s construction contract works up to ₹1 crore.

The Karnataka Hindu Religious Institutions and Charitable Endowments (Amendment) Bill, which too was adopted by the House, seeks to revive the provisions of the Bombay Public Trust Act, 1950, with respect to public trusts.

Centre says State is yet to submit proposal on increasing MGNREGA man-days

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge speaking in the Legislative Assembly in Belagavi.

Yet another Centre-State controversy has surfaced with the Centre saying that Karnataka is yet to submit any proposal seeking an increase in the number of man-days under the MGNREGA from 100 to 150 in drought-hit areas though the State has petitioned the Centre in this regard multiple times.

The issue has come to light with the Centre informing Sumalatha, MP, in a written reply in the Lok Sabha on December 12 that it has not received any proposal from Karnataka.

The issue came to the fore on Thursday with Congress member K.M. Shivalinge Gowda raising it in the Assembly during the Zero Hour.

Taking exception to this, Karnataka Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Minister Priyank Kharge described the reply provided by Union Rural Development Minister Giriraj Singh in the Lok Sabha as “wrong and false”.

Seeking to set the records straight, Mr. Kharge said the Karnataka RDPR Commissioner had written to the Union Rural Development Minister on September 14 seeking an increase in the man-days. Again, the Karnataka RDPR Principal Secretary had written to the Secretary of the Union Rural Development Minister in this regard on September 16. In fact, he himself (Mr. Kharge) had written to Mr. Giriraj Singh in this regard on September 20 besides sending a reminder to him on October 18, the Minister said. Mr. Giriraj Singh replied to him on October 31, acknowledging the letter correspondences and also informing the State that its request for increasing the man-days by 50 days was being examined, Mr. Kharge said.

He said though he had visited Delhi twice, he could not get an appointment with the Union Rural Development Minister to personally meet him.

Expressing concern that the Centre was giving false information instead of increasing the man-days, which is to be done in all the drought-hit areas, Mr. Kharge said the State would again send a reminder in this regard.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

DEATH

S. Venkataraman (ESVI)

31 July 1920 – 14 December 2023

Son, Husband, Appa, Thatha, Kollu Thatha, Mama, Chittappa, Athimber, CanBanker, Music Connoisseur, Philanthropist, Activist, Maverick, Sanyasi

Enjoyed *vengayam sambhar, paruppu usilli,* hot filter *kappi, bajji, pakkoda,* chocolates, *badam halwa*, et al ... with a twinkle in his eye, till the end. Lived well, ever ready to provide Chitragupta a detailed account of his purposeful life.

Hema & Ravichandar

DEATH

Major General S. Balakrishnan
(Retd) VSM age 86
passed away on 04.12.2023 at 1.22am.
13th day ceremony on 15th Dec.
at his residence.
Survived by wife:
Thara Balakrishanan and two children.
99529 63332, 98487 96699

SAD DEMISE

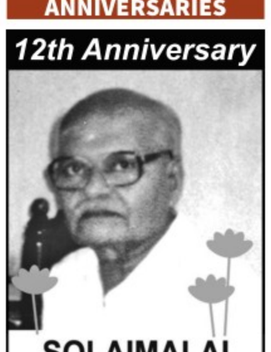
Mrs. KAMALA VENKATARAMAN
W/o. Mr. S.VENKATARAMAN (Retd. Principal, RBI)
ATTAINED SIVALOKA PRAPTHI ON 14.12.23
LEAVING BEHIND
Mrs. & Mr. V. Srinivasan (CUB)
Mrs. & Mr. V. Sundaresan (PNB)
Gokul, Amaresh,
Mathangi, Pratyush
Ph: 94442 62111 / 84200 17946

IN MEMORIAM

"THE WORLD changes from year to year,our lives from day to day,but the love and memory of you,shall never pass away"–A.V.ANANDAKUMAR(19.09.1927–15.12.1989)–husband of late SMT VISALAM ANANDAKUMAR–fondly remembered by their children

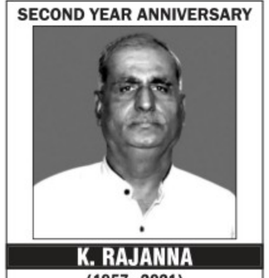
DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

12th Anniversary



SOLAIMALAI RAMASUNDARAM
Born 29.12.1936
Expired 15.12.2011
In fond remembrance of our beloved Appa.
"Ramsundar & Malarvizhi
Ramkumar & Anuradha,
Kavitha,Rachna,Bharath & Lakshita
Relatives & friends."
+919821633784

SECOND YEAR ANNIVERSARY



K. RAJANNA
(1957 - 2021)
PRESIDENT - IOEU
(2016 - 2021)
inserted by
S.MOHANRAJ
(GENERAL SECRETARY)&
ALL MEMBERS OF INDIAN OIL EMPLOYEES' UNION (SR)

‘Vedike 40, C.R. Simha 80’: A year-long tribute to Kannada theatre legend

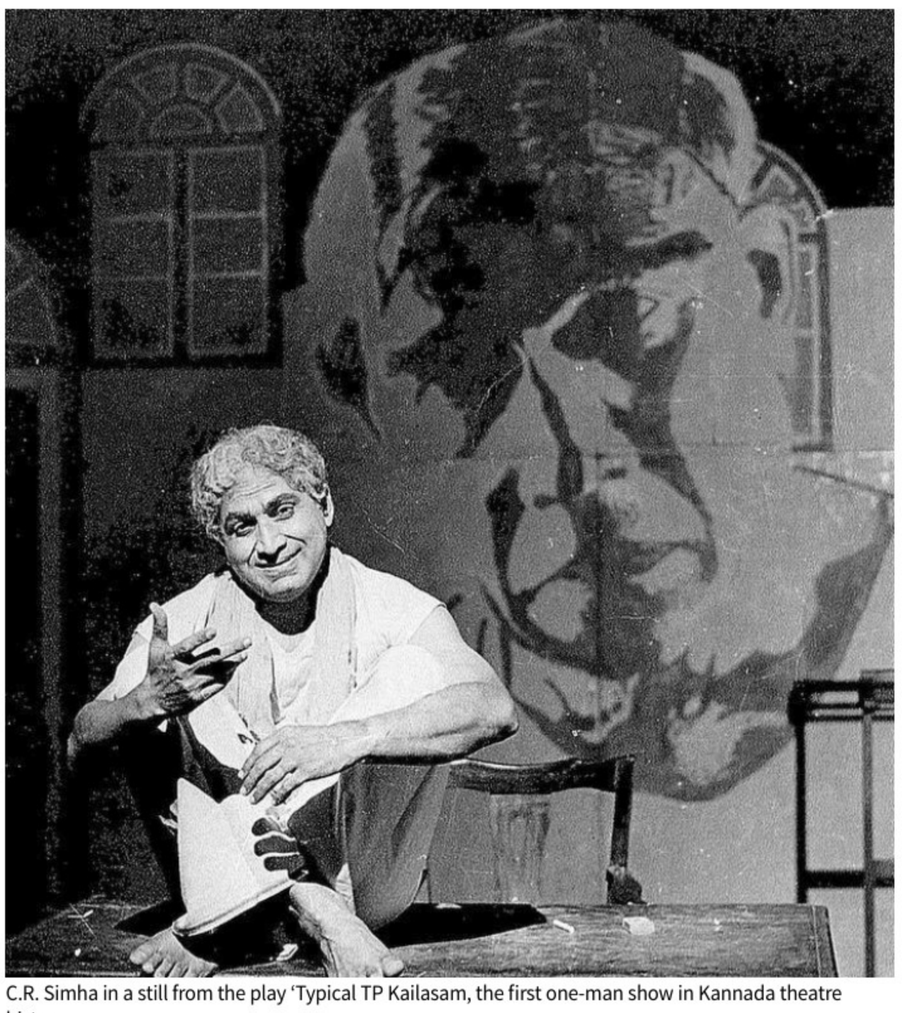
Over the last year, Vedike Foundation has performed around 10 productions and about 40 shows

Yemen S.
BENGALURU

This year, the Kannada theatre circuit witnessed *Vedike 40, C R Simha 80*, a year-long theatre festival to commemorate the 80th birth anniversary of the late stalwart of Kannada theatre Channapatna Ramaswami Simha (C.R. Simha) and the 40th year of his troupe, Vedike Foundation.

Vedike Foundation’s core team of more than 50 actors and several technicians staged around 10 different productions, and about 40 shows throughout the year at two venues in Bengaluru. Every second Saturday there was a show at K.H Kala Soudha in Hanumanthanagar and every fourth Saturday and Sunday, the troupe performed at Vyoma Art Space, J.P Nagar, along with more performances across the city.

“We performed 10 plays throughout the year written by some of the greatest Kannada playwrights like Masti Venkatesha Iyengar, T.P Kailasam, Girish Karnad, P Lankesh, Parvathavani and Chandrashekhara Kambar. Out of the 10 plays, three were new plays, and seven were revived. We performed *Tughlaq, Kakanakote, Bhairavi, Haavu Eni*, all directed by my father C.R Simha, and *Bahaddur Ganda, Policer Iddare Echarikke, Aaspho-ta*, directed by myself and my wife Jasleen Simha. We also performed 12 one-act plays directed by a variety of theatre makers,“ said Ritwik Simha, a theatreperson, creative director of Vedike Foundation, and the son of C.R Simha.


C.R. Simha in a still from the play ‘Typical TP Kailasam, the first one-man show in Kannada theatre history.

Stills from the play ‘Jai Ho Ratna’.

Songs of Ratna

To bring the festival to an end, the troupe will be performing *Jai Ho Ratna*, C.R Simha’s last production as a writer and director, on December 16 and 17, at 7 p.m. in K.H Kala Soudha.

Jai Ho Ratna is a musical play based on the famous *Ratnan Padagalu*, poems by Kannada literary great G.P. Rajaratnam. These poems offer a unique background to the play. Ratna, a labourer, finds true love in Nanji. Their pristine love blooms amidst a dull, dreary, humdrum existence. Ratna, an optimist, finds magical romance even in his hand-to-mouth existence. Life is a song for him to be enjoyed to the maximum. Nanji is his counterfoil, lovingly managing the house with his meagre income. Ratna, his friends, and their daily escapades in the local toddy shop leads to several delightful situations. Ratna seems to have a song for every occasion. His wit and humour get him out of all difficulties. C.R Simha was a multifaceted artist, recognized as an actor, director, and playwright, celebrated for his contributions to both Kannada cinema and theatre. Commencing his journey with Prabhat Kalavidaru, a theatre ensemble in Bengaluru, he garnered acclaim through his roles in numerous Kannada plays, many of which achieved iconic status. He ventured into directing and starring in Kannada renditions of Shakespeare’s *Midsummer Night’s Dream* and *Othello*, productions that gained recognition across multiple Indian states. One of his best plays was *Typical TP Kailasam*, the first one-man show in Kannada theatre that delicately etched the life of celebrated and maverick Kannada writer Kailasam. This two-hour-long play was performed over 1000 times. He also directed and performed in English plays penned by playwrights like Moliere, Bernard Shaw, Edward Albee, Neil Simon, and others.

Talking about his journey with Vedike Foundation and working with his father, Ritwik Simha says he was fortunate to grow up in such an environment and for a very long time he was not aware that he was growing up around legends.

Taking forward legacy

Riwtik says that though taking forward his father’s legacy is a huge weight to carry, he and his wife are doing their bit. “My father’s legacy is a huge weight that we need to carry. I have been doing my part carrying his legacy and doing my own work too as a theatre maker. Another important person taking forward the legacy of my father is my wife Jasleen. My wife is a Punjabi, we met in college started doing theatre, and now she runs the Vedike Foundation along with me. She did not know Kannada when we first met, but now speaks, reads, writes, and directs plays in Kannada. Jasleen is the one who does all the hard work and runs the foundation.”

Tickets for *Jai Ho Ratna*, the last two shows of the year-long festival, are available on *BookMyShow* and at the K.H. Kalasoudha box-office.

Narrating a classic through ballet

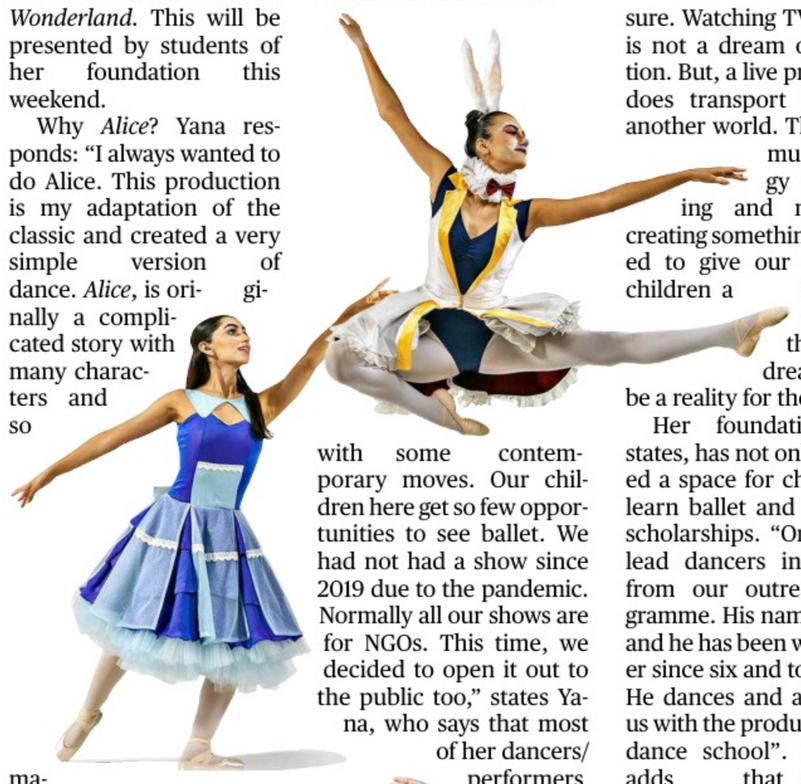
Shilpa Anandraj
BENGALURU

Yana Lewis started teaching classical ballet in Bengaluru in 1999 and started The Lewis Foundation Of Classical Ballet in 2006. She has now choreographed a ballet *Alice*, which is an adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*. This will be presented by students of her foundation this weekend.

Why *Alice*? Yana responds: “I always wanted to do Alice. This production is my adaptation of the classic and created a very simple version of dance. *Alice*, is originally a complicated story with many characters and so many things happening. I wanted to present something very child-friendly and child-centric, keeping the presentation simple and not make the narration confusing. All this is there in the book already, in fact much more,” says Yana, who adds: “Over the years, we have had many versions of Alice, including the first Disney version to *Alice through the Looking Glass*, but I felt it was all complicated and un child-friendly. My choreography is aimed at creating a wonderland that children can perceive. Hence, I played with my imagination to see how my version of *Alice* falls, through dance.”

She says *Alice* will not be classical ballet per se, “as it can be quite abstract. We have used modern ballet with some contemporary moves. Our children here get so few opportunities to see ballet. We had not had a show since 2019 due to the pandemic. Normally all our shows are for NGOs. This time, we decided to open it out to the public too,” states Yana, who says that most of her dancers/performers for the show are from the foundation’s outreach programme.

The ballet *Alice*, is an adaptation of Lewis Carroll’s *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland.*



“We normally do our shows for 1200 NGO children and even provide them with transportation as some of them live way outside the city. These children come, watch the show, have dinner and then go back,” she says and states the reason for her passion to keep the outreach programme going with: “You can not be something more than what you know if you do not dream or aspire to it. Aspiration comes from exposure. Watching TV, for me, is not a dream or aspiration. But, a live production does transport you into another world. There is so much energy in creating and magic in creating something. I wanted to give our outreach children a platform to know that this dream can be a reality for them.”

Her foundation, she states, has not only provided a space for children to learn ballet and also give scholarships. “One of our lead dancers in *Alice* is from our outreach programme. His name is Tejas and he has been with us ever since six and today is 19. He dances and also helps us with the production and dance school”. She also adds that some of the outreach students are studying and dancing in Germany. “I believe what comes in goes out and we give back. That is how life works.”

Having lived in Bengaluru for decades, Yana calls it “my city too now” and observes that ballet as a dance has grown by leaps and bounds in the city. The show is on December 17 at BR Ambedkar Bhavan, Vasanthnagar, at 12.30 and 5.30 p.m.

Drag, Princesses, Tea and Colouring at Gender Bender

Princess Shy also known as Sayantika Majumdar is from Gaysi land, she works for Gaysi Family, a digital safe space for the queer community

Meghnavi Ravuri
BENGALURU

“What do you want to be today?” A princess once asked, “A leaf, with all the colours,” replied a man. “A footballer,” replied another. That was how the Drag Story Hour and Tea Party began at Gender Bender a three-day event held recently. Princess Shy (Sayantika Majumdar) read out excerpts from two unique children’s books on the stories of queer children at the Max Muller Bhavan.

The Many Colours of Anshu, the first book read by Princess Shy was written by Anshumaan Sathe. The story follows the tale of spunky little Anshu as he explores the world and the options of who he could be, A boy? A girl? Or Anything he wants to be! While reading an excerpt from the book, Princess Shy screamed and cried just like the little kid in the book and took everyone into the world of Anshu.

Princess Shy asked the audience again what they wanted to be. A person with bright blue hair said they wanted to be calm so they could get through the day, and another wanted to be a pretty fairy sitting on a daffodil. Princess Shy introduced the second book, *Boy in the Cupboard*, written by Harshala Gupte and illustrated by Priya Dali.

Princess Shy reading out to the audience.

Princess Shy (Sayantika Majumdar)

From adults to teenagers and their parents, many people attended the event. Shilpa and her son Neel found out about the event from their sister-in-law who is a part of the queer community. Shilpa, who is also an author, said that the session showcased queer stories without adding the adult lenses, “The way Princess Shy rendered the reading and how someone different perceives themselves with respect to the world around us was really nice.” Princess Shy also known as Sayantika Majumdar is from Gaysi land, she works for Gaysi Family, a digital safe space for the queer community from across Southeast Asia. She is a drag artist and uses the medium of drag to be whatever one wants to be. This was her first time doing a book reading, “I think it’s not just for children but the inner child in all of us, growing up we didn’t have books that helped us feel seen as queer folks.”

She expressed her love for books and how she didn’t just want to be a princess that sits in a castle but one that slays dragons, “We are so limited by the understanding of gender we have in the world, having books like this are cathartic, it gives me hope that children have what we don’t have. These books aren’t limited to queer children but teaches children to be kinder.”

“Where’s the tea? It can’t be a tea party without tea!” screamed Princess Shy, signalling the end of the session.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 15, 1973

Urs Drops Six Ministers in Reshuffle

Bangalore, Dec. 14: The Karnataka Municipal Administration Minister, Mr. B. Basavalingappa, whose public speeches had led to a Ministerial crisis earlier this month, has been dropped along with three other Cabinet Ministers and two Ministers of State by the Chief Minister, Mr. Devaraj in the first instalment of reshuffle of his Cabinet to-day.

The PCC President Mr. K.H. Ranganath, nephew of Mr. Basavlingappa has been included in the Cabinet. The Minister of State for Animal Husbandry, Mr. N. Chikke Gowda has been elevated to Cabinet rank.

Curfew in Hubli-Dharwar as Violence Continues

Dharwar, Dec. 14: Curfew has been clamped down within the limits of Hubli-Dharwar Corporation area for 11 hours with effect from 19-00 hours to-day.

This is the first town in the State to come under curfew in the wake of violent incidents following alleged attacks on Kannadigas in parts of Maharashtra.

One person died due to suffocation when anti-Maharashtra demonstrators set fire to a shop in the market area of Dharwar in the early hours of to-day.

The fire, which spread to three other adjacent shops, gutted them completely. The person, who was sleeping in one of the shops, was brought out in an unconscious state by fire-fighters. He, however, died in hospital.

Karnataka InFocus

THE HINDU

NUGGETS OF HISTORY

94.53% of documents were registered

In this financial year, so far, as many as 2,83,855 documents were submitted for registration under the new Kaveri-2 system in Karnataka. Of these documents, 2,68,339 (94.53%) were registered. Average time taken for registration was 57 minutes. On the other hand, the maximum time taken for registration was 13 hours 41 minutes.

Kaveri-2 system of registration in DK

The new Kaveri-2 system of registration started on June 15 in Dakshina Kannada amidst opposition by advocates, who questioned the process that speeds up the registration process. The registration started in a snail's pace with the registration of two documents in Bantwal Sub Registar's Office. A total of 938 documents were registered in June.

Kaveri-2 registartion started in Udupi

In the coastal district of Udupi, the Kaveri-2 registration started on June 7 with the registration of one document in Byndoor Sub Registrar's Office. The process of registration picked up pace in the last week of June. A total of 1,113 documents were registered in that month.
A total of 3,485 documents were registered in July.

Eight SRO's for Dakshina Kannada

The Dakshina Kannada district has eight Sub Registrar Offices (SROs). Apart from the one for Mangaluru city, there are SROs for Mangaluru taluk, Moodbidri, Belthangady, Sullia, Puttur, Bantwal, Vitla and Mulki. In Udupi district, there is an SRO for Udupi city, followed by SROs for Kundapura, Karkala, Shankarnarayana, Brahmavar and Byndoor.

Cradle of banking sector districts

Dakshina Kannada and Udupi districts are known as the cradle of banking sector. The Canara Bank, Karnataka Bank, and the erstwhile Vijaya Bank started from Mangaluru, while erstwhile SyndicateBank started from Udupi. The South Canara District District Central Cooperative Bank and MCC Bank are among good performing cooperative banks in the State.

How fraudsters stole money using biometric details in Sub-Registrar offices

A senior police official overseeing investigation into the AEPS fraud cases in Mangaluru said multiple gangs based in Bihar were involved in siphoning money

Raghava M.
MANGALURU

Notices displayed outside the two Sub-Registrar Offices a Mini Vidhana Soudha building in Mangaluru a some days ago asked people to lock their biometrics before going for registering their documents.

The notices read: "In light of complaints registered with (Mangaluru) CEN (Cyber Economic and Narcotic Crime) police station on fraudsters misusing Aaadhaar number and finger prints printed on the registered documents for removing money from bank accounts, we are advising people coming for registration to lock their biometrics."

The notices in Mangaluru sub-registrar offices also mentioned the procedure to be followed for locking the biometrics. In addition, the Stamps and Registration Department posted on You Tube (https://youtu.be/Jtq6nTtpu5A?si=EPnbTDCuUKbiOIRh) a video tutorial on "How to block Aadhaar biometric on your phone."

Three arrested

It is well over a month since Mangaluru police arrested three persons from Bihar in connection with 10 cases registered relating to stealing money from bank accounts of people by misusing Aaadhaar number and fingerprints printed on the documents registered at Sub Registrar offices.

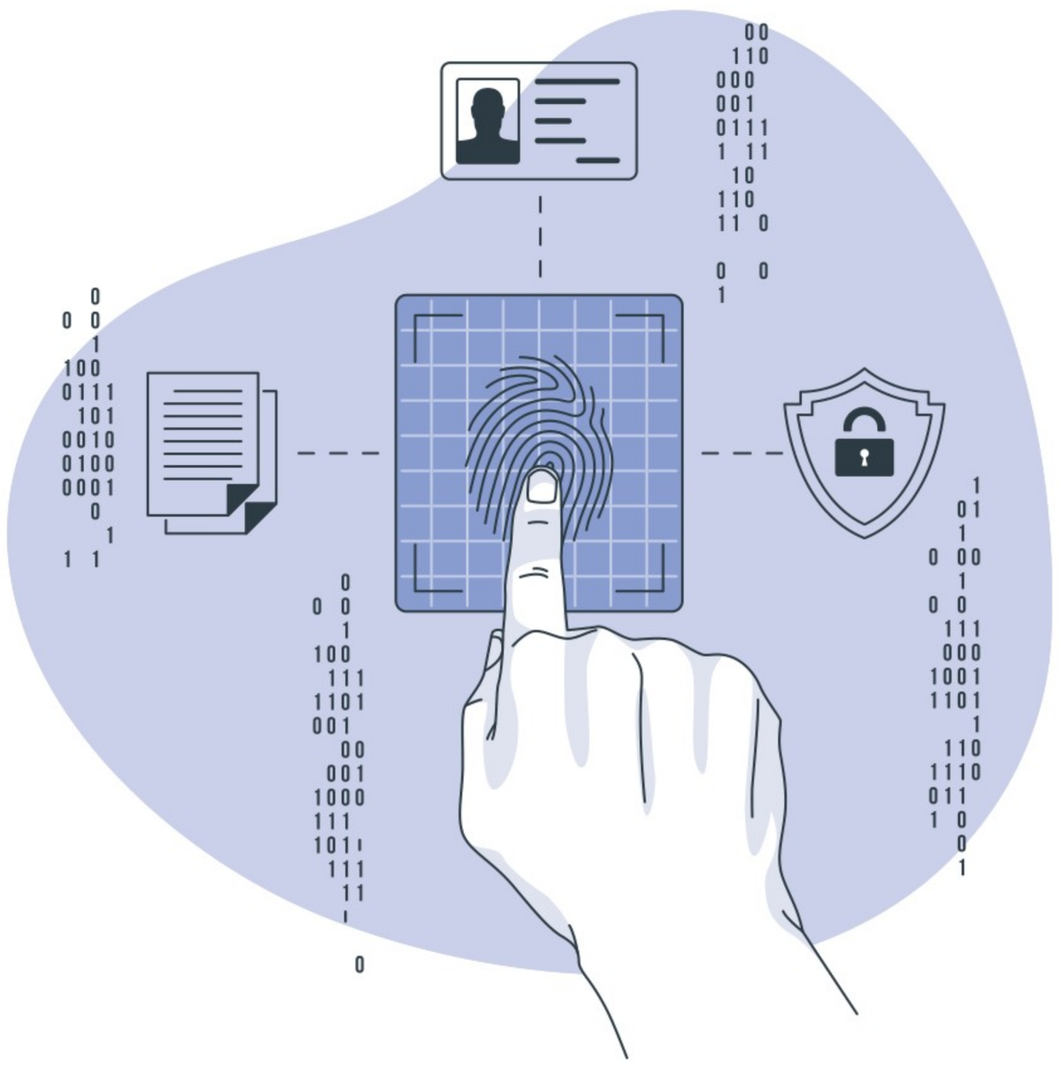
Such cases of new age data theft have been reported from elsewhere in Karnataka and other states as well.

Now, before coming to the offices of Sub-Registrar to complete the registration work, people are seen logging on to the 'mAadhaar' app or to myaddhaar.uidai.gov.in for locking their biometrics. Document writers and advocates are seen at the Sub Registrars' office helping people in blocking their biometrics. "Before people sit to capture their picture and give fingerprint to complete the registration (under the new Kaveri 2 system) process, we ensure they have blocked their biometrics," said a Sub-Registrar of Mangaluru.

Cases reported

The misuse of Aadhaar number and fingerprints in the registered documents for stealing money was first pointed out by a doctor couple from Bejai in Mangaluru. The two had gone to the Sub Registrar's office on September 9 for registering their land. Ten days later, ₹ 50,000 each got deducted from the accounts of the husband and the wife respectively between September 11 and September 16. The two filed a complaint with the Mangaluru CEN police station on September 16.

Nine other complaints were registered at the CEN Police Station between October 25 and October 26 wherein complainants reported on losing money ranging between ₹10,000 and ₹99,599 between August 6 and September 19.



Mangaluru Police Commissioner Anupam Agrawal said a total of 58 complaints have been filed with Mangaluru City police and the total money lost is about ₹ 3.2 lakh between this August and October.

Investigation

In Udupi, K. Ravishankar, a doctor from Shirva, was the first to register the complaint on October 3 on losing ₹ 10,000 each from his Union Bank of India and Canara Bank accounts respectively on September 30. Four complaints were registered at the Malpe police station on October 31 reporting on the deduction of money ranging between ₹6,000 and ₹28,000 between October 12 and October 24.

As interaction with the Registration Department officials did not help in unravelling the way fraudsters accessed Aadhaar and fingerprints from the Kaveri-2 system, the city police took up the laborious task of tracing the money trial.

It took nearly two months for the Mangaluru police to identify Deepak Kumar Hembram, 33; Vivek Kumar Biswas, 24; and Madan Kumar, 23, and arrest them from a place in Bihar, in the last week of October. The three were arrested in connection with 10 cases registered by Mangaluru police. The city police is searching for the main accused, who is said to be the leader of the gang of fraudsters.

More cases in Bengaluru

A couple of days after Mangaluru police arrested three persons, the Bengaluru Northeast Division cybercrime police arrested two persons allegedly involved in AEPS fraud. A total of 116 cases of AEPS fraud have been registered in Bengaluru. Cases of AEPS fraud have been reported from other parts of the State including Hassan, Chikkamagaluru and Kodagu districts. AEPS fraud cases have been reported from Andhra Pradesh and Telangana states too.

A senior police official overseeing investigation into the AEPS fraud cases in Mangaluru said multiple gangs based in Bihar were involved in siphoning money using AEPS enabled devices. "A majority of the members of these gangs are Class 10 pass outs and the way they have exploited loopholes in AEPS is mind-boggling," the officer said.

Those arrested by Mangaluru police have no links with the persons arrested by Bengaluru police, the official added.

Modus operandi

The accused, the official said, have given fake details to register themselves on the Kaveri Online Services website (kaveri.karnataka.gov.in) of Karnataka Stamps and Registration Department. Then they have submitted online application seeking copies of documents by randomly mentioning registration numbers. The copies of these documents are then downloaded.

Culling out documents where the fingerprints are clearly seen, fraudsters took image of the fingerprints on a butter paper. The image is adjusted to the size of thumb. A rubber stamp like tool using silicon material was prepared, which had ridges of the fingerprint.

This tool was placed on AEPS-enabled device and was pressed after entering the Aadhaar number. Following match of Aadhaar number and finger print, money to a maximum of ₹10,000 per transaction was withdrawn. A maximum of ₹ 25,000 can be withdrawn per day using AEPS.

In some cases, money has been withdrawn a couple of days after registration, while there are cases where money has been withdrawn a month after registration. Mangaluru police have recovered PDF images of over 1000 registered documents related to Karnataka and over 300 registered documents related to Andhra Pradesh and a few other states. The police official said the whole process was well organised. While one applied for certified copies, there was another person to take print out and keep apart those documents that had clear fingerprints. There were persons for preparing rubber stamp like tool and withdrawing money.

Meeting with authority

The senior police official said recently the Mangaluru police had a meeting with officials from Unique Identification Authority of India where loopholes in the AEPS were pointed out.

The police expressed the need for generating OTP for withdrawing money. An alert should be generated and sent to the mobile number of the account holder when money is withdrawn at a far away place than the place where an account holder resides. "In all cases reported in Mangaluru, withdrawals were made at Bihar," the police official said and added, "Interestingly, the place where the money was withdrawn was about 200 km away from the place the accused was staying."

Changes made

The fraud has led the Department of Stamps and Registration to bring some changes in the Kaveri-2 system. "We have stopped providing image of all the pages of the registered document. Instead, only image of the first page of the document is being provided to those filing for certified copy application online," said a senior officer from the Stamps and Registration Department. The document writers have been told to mention in the document to be registered only last four digits of Aadhaar number while writing "X" in place of the first eight digits of the number.

Sub Registrar Office (Mangaluru City) in Mini-Vidhana Soudha in Mangaluru.

Three BJP leaders attend Congress dinner in Belagavi

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

Giving further room for speculation over their future political move, BJP MLAs and former Ministers S.T. Somashekar and Shivaram Hebbar, and MLC A.H. Vishwanath attended the dinner organised following the Congress Legislature Party (CLP) meeting on Belagavi outskirts late on Wednesday night.

Congress sources said the two former BJP Ministers arrived after the CLP meeting and joined the Congress legislators for dinner while Mr. Vishwanath had arrived earlier.

The duo arrived at the venue purportedly to meet Chief Minister Siddaramaiah seeking grants for development works to be taken up in their constituency, sources said. Mr. Somashekar represents Yeshwantpur Assembly constituency in Bengaluru while Mr. Hebbar represents Yellapur constituency in Uttara Kannada district. Mr. Vishwanath is a nominated MLC.

KPCC president D.K. Shivakumar told presspersons here on Thursday that 10 legislators from other parties had come to the dinner based on the invite. "However, they did not participate in the CLP," he clarified.

The two former Ministers – formerly with the Congress – and Mr. Vishwanath (formerly with the JD-S) were part of a group of 17 Congress and JD(S) legislators who resigned, triggering the collapse of the 14-month-old JD(S)-Congress coalition government headed by H.D. Kumaraswamy in 2019.

Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok said that the former Ministers had informed him about their attendance at the dinner. "This cannot be construed as indiscipline.However, this (their meeting with Congress leaders) has been happening frequently for the past three months. I will speak to them."

Guarantee rallies

The Hindu Bureau
BELAGAVI

As part of the preparation for the ensuing Lok Sabha elections, Karnataka Congress legislators were told in the CLP meeting to organise rallies at district-level as well as the constituency level to bring the beneficiaries of the guarantees on the same platform in January and create awareness about the benefits that have accrued from the scheme.

During the CLP meeting, many legislators are learnt to have thanked the Chief Minister for announcing a special grant of ₹25 crore in the previous meeting last week. The Chief Minister is learnt to have promised more special funds and to address the issues of legislators after the budget session.

Moving SC against Centre a historic fight, says Pinarayi

CM says Kerala's petition seeks to restore the Constitutional rights of States; he adds that the Centre's discriminatory actions on financial front are aimed at throwing the State into dire straits

The Hindu Bureau
KOTTAYAM

Agriculture Minister P. Prasad presenting a sapling to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan during the Navakerala Sadas. SURESH ALLEPPEY

Unleashing a full-scale attack for "squeezing" the State financially through alleged unconstitutional means, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has termed the State government's decision to approach the Supreme Court against the Centre "a historic fight" to preserve federalism.

Addressing mediapersons at Kuravilangad, near Kottayam, on Thursday in connection with the ongoing Navakerala Sadas, Mr. Vijayan said the Centre's "discriminatory and vindictive actions" on the financial front were aimed at throwing the State into dire straits. The petition seeks to restore the "Constitutional rights of State governments."

"The key aspects highlighted in the petition are the unconstitutional interference by the Centre in the State's financial affairs, the unconstitutional cuts to eligible borrowing limits and inclusion of the State's public account liabilities and borrowings by State-owned enterprises in the borrowing limit," he said.

The plea also seeks to prohibit the Central measures that encroach upon the States' Constitutional prerogatives through the exercise of powers not contained in the Constitution, said Mr. Vijayan.

Attributing the current financial squeeze to a failure by the Centre to provide GST compensation and the reduction in revenue deficit grant, Mr. Vijayan said that though the State had tried to overcome this by increasing tax and non-tax revenue and prioritising expenditure, the economic impact was more than what the State could bear.

DRT has no power to impound passport: HC

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) has no power in law for directing the detention or surrendering of passport during pendency of loan recovery proceedings before it, as such directions would amount to impounding of the passport, said the High Court of Karnataka.

Pointing out that even civil and criminal courts have no power in law to impound the passport, the High Court said that the power for impounding is available only to the passport authorities under Section 10 of the Passports Act, 1967, and for the constitutional courts.

On request of banks

The DRTs were passing orders for surrender of passport on the requests of banks to prevent borrowers/guarantors from leaving the country without prior permission from tribunals during pendency of proceedings.

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while directing DRT-1, Bengaluru, to hand over the passport of the petitioner, Nitin Shambhukumar Kasliwal of Mumbai. The DRT kept the petitioner's passport in its custody since 2015 and was releasing it for his travel based on his submission of the itinerary.

The petitioner, who was a guarantor to certain loans, was a respondent before the DRT in recovery proceedings initiated by the banks on some companies.

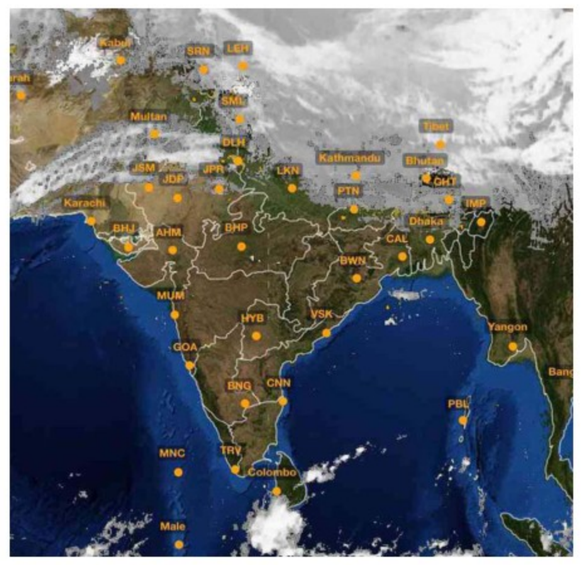
The petitioner had knocked the doors of the High Court as the DRT had recently rejecting his plea for releasing the passport for the purpose of renewal as its validity had expired.

Section 102 or 104 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Cr.P.C) empowers the police to seize and the trial court to impound any document but they have no power to impound passports, the High Court said, while pointing out that the Supreme Court had already ruled that the investigating agencies and the trial courts have no power to impound passports.

"The DRT, which undoubtedly has only the power of following the procedure of a civil court in securing ends of justice, certainly has no power to impound passport," said the High Court.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Friday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Karaikal. Squally weather wind speed 40-45 kmph gusting to 55 kmph likely to prevailing over Comorin area and adjoining Maldives

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	24.7	12.6	Kozhikode	—	34.0	24.6
Ahmedabad	—	29.2	16.5	Kurnool	—	31.7	18.0
Aizawl	—	22.6	11.7	Lucknow	—	24.0	10.4
Allahabad	—	26.2	10.3	Madurai	—	32.5	21.5
Bengaluru	—	26.5	17.7	Mangaluru	—	32.0	22.8
Bhopal	—	27.8	11.2	Mumbai	—	34.6	20.5
Bhubaneswar	—	28.2	15.5	Mysuru	—	29.0	—
Chandigarh	—	23.7	8.3	New Delhi	—	24.1	6.2
Chennai	—	29.8	23.0	Patna	—	24.1	11.4
Coimbatore	—	28.9	21.6	Port Blair	—	31.0	27.1
Dehradun	—	23.5	6.0	Puducherry	—	29.4	21.7
Gangtok	2	13.9	5.2	Pune	—	29.1	16.0
Goa	—	32.9	22.1	Raipur	—	28.8	15.5
Guwahati	—	25.4	12.4	Ranchi	—	23.5	9.0
Hubballi	—	30.0	17.0	Shillong	—	14.8	4.2
Hyderabad	—	27.5	15.5	Shimla	—	18.2	5.9
Imphal	—	23.0	11.7	Srinagar	—	9.7	-5.4
Jaipur	—	25.6	11.3	Thiruvananthapuram	—	34.9	23.7
Kochi	—	32.6	24.8	Tiruchi	—	31.1	21.4
Kohima	—	19.0	6.2	Vijayawada	—	29.5	20.0
Kolkata	—	25.5	15.5	Visakhapatnam	—	29.0	21.4

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	1	.28	134	117	
Bengaluru	7	11	.44	121	101	
Chennai	.14	.32	.66	65	83	
Delhi	.13	111	.99	350	348	
Hyderabad	5	102	.39	134	129	
Kolkata	.20	102	.33	245	164	
Lucknow	9	.47	109	204	177	
Mumbai	.13	.80	.26	183	177	
Pune	118	172	110	247	138	
Visakhapatnam	.18	.49	.37	163	126	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Begusarai, Bihar recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 424 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Naharlagun, Arunachal Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 29

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGE
Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao Road, Nagarabhavi P.O. Bengaluru-560 072. www.isec.ac.in

Advertisement No. A/5/2023 Date: 15.12.2023

RECRUITMENT OF ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT ISEC

Sl.No.	Designation	No.of Post	Centre	Category
1	Assistant Professor	2	Economics	UR
			Decentralisation and Development	UR

Applications are invited for the following post in the Institute.
The last date for receiving applications is **January 10, 2024**.
Detailed advertisement and the prescribed application form can be downloaded from **www.isec.ac.in.**
Sd/- Registrar
ISEC-23424

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, RR Nagara Zone, BBMP Building, Near Kengeri Indira Canteen, 1st Main Road (ORR), Kengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru - 560060.
No: EE/KEN/TEND/12/2023-24 Date: 14-12-2023

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of Works detailed below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category	Approximate Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
	SINGLE COVER SYSTEM - CALL-3		
1	Providing Pothole Filling in Ward No. 27, Lingadheeranahalli Limits for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	15.00	37,500/-
2	Providing Pothole Filling in Ward No. 29, Ullalu Limits for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	15.00	37,500/-
3	Providing Pothole Filling in Ward No. 32, Kengeri Limits for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	15.00	37,500/-
	SINGLE COVER SYSTEM - CALL-2		
1	Engaging Labours, Tippers and Other Essential Machineries for Annual Maintenance Works in Ward No. 26, Doddabidarakallu for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	30.00	60,000/-
2	Engaging Labours, Tippers and Other Essential Machineries for Annual Maintenance Works in Ward No. 28, Herohalli for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	30.00	60,000/-
3	Engaging Labours, Tippers and Other Essential Machineries for Annual Maintenance Works in Ward No. 33, Hemmigepura for the year 2023-24. **(Others)**	30.00	60,000/-

Calendar of Events: 1) The Tender Documents can be downloaded from the GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 4.00 PM on 16-12-2023. 2)** Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **26-12-2023 upto 4.00 PM. 3)** Date of Opening of Bids: **28-12-2023 at 4.00 PM.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP.

Government of Karnataka
Executive Engineer,
RDW&S, Division, Mysore
Short Term Tender Notification No: 22/2023-24
Date: 12.12.2023

On behalf of the Governor of Karnataka Items rate tenders under KW1,KW2 ,KW-3& KW-4 Standard Bid documents (Two cover system) has been called for **03works of K R Nagar taluk (Estimate cost Rs 35.23 Lakhs to Rs 90.55 Lakhs)** under the Head of Account: 2020-21 Jal Jevan Mission. Tender is been invited as per Karnataka transparency Act G.O.No.FD9 PCL 2004 Dt. 06.08.2005 and as per recent amendments, Date of uploading Tender forms under e-procurement Dt: **15.12.2023 05:00 PM** onwards, Last Date for submitting the filled Tender forms is **22.12.2023 upto 4:00PM**, Opening of Technical bid **23.12.2023, 5.00 PM** onwards, Opening of Financial bid after approval of Technical bid. Eligeble Agencies can participate in the tender process and for e-procurement support contact e-procurement Tel. Phone No 080 – 22485867, 080-22485927 . For more details log on to www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in or contact the Officer under signed at office hours. Phone No.0821-2460 495..Tender Form Fees – As per e-procurement.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, RDW&S, Division, Mysore
DIPR/DDMYS/KSMCA/764/2023-24

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
City Municipal Council, Nippani, District: Belagavi
Telephone no: 08338-220053, Fax: 08338-223001,
E-Mail: itstaff_ulb_nippani@yahoo.com
No:/CMC/Tech/CR-2023-24/1215 Dated: 13-12-2023
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (Through E-Portal)

The Municipal Commissioner, City Municipal Council Nippani, District: Belagavi invites tenders through e-procurement Portal in two cover system using KW-4 from Class-1 contractors for SCSP Grant & Municipal Fund Project of Nippani City as detailed below: **(Rs. in Lakhs)**

S No	Description of work	Estimate Amount	EMD
1	Construction of City Municipal School Building at Municipal High School Campus, Nipani DMA/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT6374	126.04	1.89

Contractors can download and submit the tenders through e-Procurement portal at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and Tender Processing Fee shall also be paid electronically. Calendar of Events and other information are as follows:

1	Period of Completion	12 Months
2	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders	28-12-2023 up to 16.30 pm
3	Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid	29-12-2023 up to 16.45 pm
4	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid	03-01-2024 up to 11.00 am

Postponement of calendar of events (if any) is only through e-Procurement portal and will not be published in newspapers For detail tender notification see State Tender Bulletin Nippani CMC office Notice Board, Website www.nippanicity.mrc.gov.in & https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/ Technical Section in Office Hours

Sd/-Municipal Commissioner
CMC Nippani
DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-774/MCA/2023-24

PUBLIC NOTICE
The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority - Karnataka (Constituted by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) Government of India), has accorded the Environmental Clearance to the Commercial Development Project at the property bearing plot nos. 4-A & 4-B, Doddanekkundi 1st Phase Industrial Area in Sy. No. 73 of Doddanekkundi Village, K. R. Puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk and presently bearing Municipal No. 287 (Old no. 50/Plot 4A & 4B), Doddanekkundi Industrial Area, Hoodi Subdivision, Bengaluru East Taluk & Bengaluru Urban District being developed by M/s. Shravanee Propteckh with registered address at No. 31, Shravanee Krishna Mansion, Ashoka Pillar, 100ft. Road, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bangalore - 560011, vide order No. SEIAA 04 CON 2021 Dated 28.06.2021. The said copy of environment clearance is available with the SEIAA office and the website of MOEF&CC at **https://parivesh.nic.in.**

UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, RAICHUR
Estate Officer, UAS, Raichur
No. EO/UASR/TND- 163/2023-24 Date:- 09-12-2023.
E - TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender has been invited from registered Travel Agencies / Service provides, for hiring of vehicles (Buses for local transport for 6 Batches) and accommodation to the students of the University on All India Tour. The details of the tender can be had through e-procurement portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in The details of the tenders are as below. For more details please contact office Telephone No. 08532 -220651, 220640 during office hours.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

1	Last Date & Time for Tender Queries.	16-12-2023	upto	16:00 hrs
2	Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders.	26-12-2023	Up to	16:00 hrs
3	Date & Time for Opening of Technical Bid.	27-12-2023	at	16:15 hrs
4	Date & Time for Opening of Financial Bid.	29-12-2023	at	11:00 hrs

Note:- The bidder shall get updated / acquainted with ADDENDUM / CORRIGENDUM (if any) issued on-line from time to time on the e-procurement portal during the entire tender process.

DIP/RCR/322/KSMC&A/319/2023-24
Sd/- ESTATE OFFICER, U.A.S, RAICHUR.

RAICHUR POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(A JOINT VENTURE COMPANY OF KPCL, BHEL)
CIN : U40101KA2009PLC049582
NO: KPCL/2023-24/OW/WORK_INDENT396/CALL-3 DATE: 24.11.2023
Corrigendum-1

Please refer the above Tender published in this daily on 03.12.2023 for the work of **providing, supplying and fixing of PVC fills for IDCT-1 & IDCT-2 at YTPS**. Last date and time for receipt of tenders is extended up to : **17.30 Hrs on 18.12.2023.** Further details can be had from the office of the **Executive Engineer(Civil),** YTPS, RPCL, Yeramarus-584 134, Dist. Raichur, Mobile: 9480830567.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Senior Assistant Director (Education), N. R. Circle, Bangalore-02.
No.SAD(E)/PR/E-44909/2023-24 Dated: 14.12.2023
NOTIFICATION FOR QUOTATION

Sub: To get the Quotation for Purchasing Almeirah, office table and chairs required by the BBMP Schools/Colleges.

Ref: Special Commissioner (Education) Order Dated: 16-11-2023.

With reference to the above mentioned subject, **Almeirah, Office Table and Chairs** which are required by the School/ Colleges of BBMP are to be procured and to supply, Quotations are invited by prestigious suppliers/vendors.

Sl. No.	Materials Name	No.
1	Almeirah	146
2	Office Table	111
3	Chairs	281

1. Quotations for Almeirah, Office Table and Chairs are to be inclusive of GST.
2. Last Date for Submission of Sealed Quotations is **16-12-2023 upto 4.30 p.m.**
3. Quotations will be opened on: **18-12-2023 at 4.30 p.m.** Interested bidders can participate.

Sd/-, Senior Assistant Director (Education), BBMP.

INDUSIND BANK LTD.
1-10-72, 3rd floor, Ashoka Janardhana Chambers, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016, Ph: (040) 40916229
APPENDIX IV-A [SEE PROVISO TO RULE 8(6)]
SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described secured asset is mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken on **11.08.2023** by the Authorised Officer of M/s. IndusInd Bank Ltd. (the secured creditor). The Property will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 29/12/2023** for recovery of **Rs.2,07,13,302/- (Rupees Two Crore Seven Lakh Thirteen Thousand Three Hundred TwoOnly) as on 30.11.2023** with further interest at the contractual rate and costs, charges and expenses due to IndusInd Bank Ltd., from the **borrower M/s. Aero Star Global Logistics India Pvt. Ltd.,and guarantors Gopala Krishnan Nair Sundaresan, Mrs. Ramya B., Mr. Bhaskaran Nair.**

Description of Immovable properties : Property of Mr. S Gopala Krishnan Nair and Mrs. Ramya B (Sale Deed Document No: 5371 of 2010-2011, dated 25-11-2010) : All that piece and parcel of Residential Vacant site bearing No. 5, BBMP Katha No. 72, Municipal No. 9, ward No. 149, measuring east to west 40 feet and north to south 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 sq. feet, formed in Old. Sy. No. 224, New Sy. No 224/1, which is duly converted from agriculture to non-agriculture residential purpose by the deputy commissioner, Bangalore vide his order no. ALN/(EVH)SR132/2009-10, dated 29-12-2009, situated at AmaneBellandurKhane Village, VarthurHobli, Bangalore East Taluk, presently comes under the limits of B.B.M.P and **bounded on the:** East by: Private Property, West by: Road, North by: Site No. 4, South by: Site NO. 6

Reserve Price: Rs.1,01,00,000.00/- (Rupees one crore one lakh only)
Earnest Money Deposit: Rs.10,10,000/- (Rupees ten lakhs ten thousand only)

Known encumbrance, if any	NIL to the knowledge of the bank.
Claims, if any, which have been put forward against the property and any other dues known to Secured creditor and value	Not Known to the best of knowledge of the Bank.
Inspection of Property	22/12/2023 between 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m.
Contact Person and Phone No : Mr. D Varadaraj (Authorized Officer) Mobile No: 9966078652 Bank officers: Mr. Jansi Rao 9886090570 & Mr. Chakradhari Shubham Mobile No: 9304376755	
Last date for submission of Bid/Bid:	28/12/2023 till 04.00 PM
Time and Venue of Bid Opening	E-Auction/Bidding through website (https://www.bankeauctions.com) 29/12/2023 from 11.00 am to 11.30 am

For detailed terms & conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditors website i.e. **https://www.indusind.com** for detailed terms & conditions of e-auction/sale of respective property and other details before submitting their bids for taking part in the e-auction. Bidders may also visit the website **https://www.bankeauctions.com** or contact service provider **M/s. C1 India Private Limited. Bidder Support Nos.: 0124-4302020 / 21 / 22, +91 7291981124 / 1125 / 1126; email: support@bankeauctions.com, Mr. Hareesh Gowda, Contact No. +91 95945 97555 & Mr. Prabakaran, Contact No. +91 74182 81709**

This notice of 15 days is being given to all of you in compliance of Rule 8, sub rule 6 of SARFAESI Rules under the SARFAESI Act 2002

Place: Hyderabad, Date: 12/12/2023 Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indusind Bank Limited

Keeping it relevant

COP meetings must use climate science to promote justice and equity

Since 1995, when the first of the United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) was organised, it has undergone a remarkable shift in character. From stuffy, closed-door meetings peopled by bureaucrats and technocrats, they have morphed into a carnival. Officialdom has of course grown, with the UN climate secretariat bursting at the seams with reams of subsidiary bodies, 'working groups' and intricately convoluted agenda items. But this has been accompanied by the burgeoning of activist groups, indigenous groups, big and small business, consultancies, traders and a vast media presence. It is on the one hand fair to conclude that this is a welcome development and due to the growing awareness of how anthropogenic climate change, amplified by centuries of industrialisation, poses an existential threat to humanity. Climate denialists, vociferous and significant in power corridors even until a decade ago, are now relegated to the obscurity of the darknet, along with Flat Earthers, and their ranks filled by parvenus and the pivoting merchants of the fossil fuel era who see opportunity in the messianic espousal of renewable energy. There is no country today that will not publicly affirm its faith in the scientific assessment – that greenhouse gas emissions must be contained drastically to cap the rise in global temperatures to 1.5°C – and yet it has never inspired any sense of urgency to cut fossil fuel use, the dominant source of GHGs.

That it has taken nearly three decades for COP to acknowledge this fact, as laid out in the Dubai Consensus, suggests that political expediency and strategic second-guessing has unfortunately weaponised even climate science. Thus, countries responsible for most of the human-emitted carbon point to record temperatures and their links to rising emissions when arguing for reining in emissions from developing countries. However, they are loathe to accept this link when developing and island nations demand funds as reparations for devastations already wreaked by climate change. The Loss and Damage Fund, which received commitments worth $750 million, and therefore cheered as a COP 28-success, has only been approved on the condition that it not be considered as compensation for historical carbon pollution. Related to this is the larger concern that COP meetings are deemed as 'historic' only when they insert new verb phrases – phase out, phase down, transition – on cutting emissions but are banal when they consider how little money and technology have been channelled for fossil fuel de-addiction. It is time that future meetings use the science to promote justice and equity and strengthen faith in what is now one of the few working multilateral processes.

Principled shift

India must take a more vocal position on Gaza with Israel

Two months after Israel's bombardment of Gaza residents in retaliation for the October 7 terror attacks by Hamas began, India joined its voice to the global call to stop the bombing, voting in favour of a resolution at the UN General Assembly (UNGA) along with 152 other nations. The resolution demanded an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, an observance of international humanitarian law, the unconditional release of all hostages, as well as "ensuring humanitarian access". India's vote was a shift from its previous vote at the last such UNGA resolution on October 26, when despite the death of 8,000 Gazans, India had decided to abstain from voting for a resolution that called for a ceasefire. The government and the MEA explained this to be a matter of principle, as part of India's "zero-tolerance" approach towards terrorism, as the earlier resolution did not contain an "explicit condemnation" of the October 7 attacks. However, while the UNGA resolution passed on December 12 bears no direct mention of the terror attacks, India has voted in favour. Although the government has yet to detail the rationale, there could be several reasons: casualty figures have risen relentlessly, with 18,000 dead and the highest such toll of nearly 90 journalists. More than 80% of the entire population is homeless. Even the U.S., Israel's biggest ally, estimates that nearly half of the 29,000 air-to-ground munitions deployed by Israel thus far are "unguided" or indiscriminate missiles. Second, Israeli Defence Forces have gone far beyond their original mandate of eliminating Hamas capacity and freeing the hostages to a large-scale flattening of Gaza and forced occupation of more territory. More than 100 Israeli hostages remain in Hamas custody. Third, global opinion, including Indian public opinion, has moved decidedly from sympathy with Israel, to horror at the unfolding aftermath, and New Delhi could not have been immune to entreaties by Palestine and the Gulf States to take a relook at its vote, even as India stood isolated in South Asia and the Global South for its previous abstention.

It may be too early to see India's UNGA vote as a reversal of its earlier position and a reversion to its original position in the conflict, where it has traditionally called for peace. Much will depend on the role India chooses for itself in ensuring the ceasefire is effected and holds, given that Israel has already rejected the UNGA resolution. Having proven its credentials as a friend to Israel following the terror attacks, as well as the odium of enabling the civilian deaths, the Modi government must be more vocal in helping the Netanyahu government out of the strategic cul de sac it has bombarded its way into, one which could cause regional instability and insecurity for decades.

COP28 — many a slippery slope ahead

D. Raghunandan

is with the Delhi Science Forum and the All India Peoples Science Network

Much rested on COP28 in Dubai, a milestone event slated to take up the first five-yearly global stocktake with respect to goals set under the Paris Agreement to combat the climate crisis. The global stocktake covers mitigation, adaptation, financing and other support to developing countries, for which a report of technical deliberations and a synthesis report had been prepared as inputs to the COP. Based on the global stocktake review at COP28, countries would be required to submit raised emissions reduction targets by mid-2025 for finalisation at COP30.

The global stocktake input reports conveyed what is already known from all major scientific studies, i.e., the window for restricting global heating to 1.5° C above pre-industrial levels is rapidly closing. Global average temperature rise is already dangerously close to that limit, having already touched it on many days this year. Severe heat waves, droughts, forest fires, floods and extreme rainfall are already being witnessed more frequently across the world, along with possible irreversible melting of polar and glacial ice and sea-level rise. The urgency to rein in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions causing climate change was clearly top of the agenda in Dubai.

Focus on fossil fuels

From the outset, fossil fuels, responsible for around 75% of all greenhouse gases and about 90% of global carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions, took centre stage at COP28, astonishingly for the first time ever in climate COPs. Anxieties about the influence of the oil industry and supporting governments had already been swirling around, with the COP being held in the Gulf. The COP28 President, Sultan Al Jaber, a United Arab Emirates Minister and head of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC), one of the world's largest oil and gas producers, further set the cat among the pigeons by claiming in an interview that "there was no science" that called for cutting back on fossil fuels to tackle climate change. Journalists and activists had also noted that fossil fuel companies had been steadily increasing their presence at the COPs, often even as members of official country delegations, giving them access to the main negotiation rooms. Their numbers had shot up to 2,000 at Dubai, larger than any country's delegation.

On the positive side, all three successive global stocktake draft texts echoed the GST input findings that the 1.5°C target would require "deep, rapid and sustained" reduction in global emissions of 43% by 2030 and 60% by 2035 relative to 2019 levels, reaching net-zero CO_2 by 2050, with global emissions expected to peak around 2020 or latest by 2025.

> The COP28 Declaration has left almost all the problems where they were before; nothing much of substance has been gained in Dubai

After the initial draft text drew mixed responses, especially over phase-down or out of fossil fuels, the second draft was circulated much later on the penultimate day, and evoked furious reactions. It gave only a bullet list of options that countries "could" take towards emissions cuts, including "reduction" of fossil-fuel production and use, and underplaying financial support from developed countries. Small island states called the text a death sentence, African countries said they would not leave without assurances on funding, and the European Union threatened to walk out saying the 1.5°C target could not be attained with such a text.

Inevitably, the COP was extended by a day and a fresh text was tabled in the morning of December 13. This draft sought to square the circle on fossil fuels by calling for "transitioning away" from fossil fuels, which several countries and observers suggested be read as signalling the end of the fossil fuel era. In the relief over this compromise, other serious lacunae were overlooked.

A draft with loose definitions

The final draft had many loopholes that could prolong production and use of fossil fuels, and favoured the industry as well as rich developed countries with advanced technologies. While calling for a phase-down of "unbated" coal power, the door was left open for "low-carbon fuels", "low-emission" technologies, "low-carbon hydrogen", and "transitional fuels," (widely used in Europe and the United States to describe natural gas) – all terms with very loose definitions.

It also made special mention of carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) which has not achieved commercial viability and whose eventual emissions savings are unknown. On emission reductions and shift to clean energy, the draft also did not adequately refer to equity or common but differentiated responsibility (CBDR), possibly under pressure from the U.S. looking to treat all countries on a par.

This draft also did not take the issue of financial support by developed countries further, causing much anguish to climate vulnerable countries. The draft did express concern that the earlier commitment of $100 billion per year by 2020, however inadequate, had not been met. It repeated the global stocktake reports' estimation that developing countries needed about $5.8-$5.9 trillion for the pre-2030 period, with adaptation alone requiring $215-$387 billion per year and clean energy transition requiring about $4.3 trillion per year, both until 2030. Yet, no fresh targets were mentioned in the draft, not even for the new Loss and Damage fund formally set up on the first day and gathering pledges for a meagre $470 million.

The closing plenary was called just a few hours after the final draft was published, giving country delegations little time for discussions. While delegates were milling about, the COP President quickly tabled the draft, noted that there were no objections, and gavelled it through!. On the live webcast, the delegates appeared stunned, then a ripple of applause grew slowly into the usual standing ovation. As often happens at fraught climate COPs, the relief at any closure, good or not, seems better than opposing an apparent consensus.

Disquiet

Yet, voices of disquiet were expressed post facto. The delegate from Samoa, representing the small island states, said that she and other island delegations were outside discussing the text when it was gavelled through in their absence, and went on to spell out a long list of their objections. Many more such voices followed – for example from Africa, chiefly criticising the lax attitude towards fossil fuels and the lack of financial support announced.

The COP28 Declaration has left almost all the problems where they were before. Other than recording a decision to "transition away" from fossil fuels, which countries were already doing in practice, and noting the broad global target for higher emissions reduction to achieve the 1.5°C goal, nothing much of substance has been gained at COP28. A road map towards new targets in 2025 was not drawn up. Financial assistance was not scaled up. The Global Goal on Adaptation was left half-baked. A number of other documents were not finalised or approved. On the other hand, the fossil fuel industry went back happy, as did the developed countries which successfully dealt yet another blow against inter-nation equity, and have again escaped putting serious funds on the table.

'Authenticity' in a post-authentic world

Atanu Biswas

is Professor of Statistics, Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata

Merriam-Webster's word of the year for 2023 is "authentic," which is a fitting follow-up to their word of the year choice for 2022, "gaslighting," a term for deceiving someone into doubting their own realities or beliefs.

"To thine own self be true." Polonius's remarks in *Hamlet* serve as a constant reminder to examine ourselves. However, according to Merriam-Webster, "when we question authenticity, we value it even more." Honestly, yes. These days, every bit of our lifestyle is Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven; deep fakes and post-truths have blurred the boundary between "real" and "fake." Authenticity gets prominence as Elon Musk believes that individuals should be more "authentic" on social media, and celebrities such as Taylor Swift strive for "authentic voice" and "authentic self". But is that horizon of "authenticity"? While it is a desirable quality, what does the term "authentic" really describe? Being true to one's own personality, spirit, or character? Not false or imitation? Made or done in the same way as an original?

An evolving mechanism

Over time, the mechanism of authenticity evolved. Although Rousseau maintained that the need for others' approval undermines authenticity, Sartre and Heidegger acknowledged that external influences are unavoidable and that society and the natural world shape us just as much as our own choices. Therefore, "authenticity" in today's world ought to be entwined with celebrity culture, identity, and social media, along with AI and its deep fake avatar. It is also bound to be closely related to "fake news", which surfaced out of nowhere in November 2016. Even though former U.S. President Donald Trump relentlessly bashed the media as "fake news", Merriam-Webster states that its origins date back to the 1890s. Mussolini even distributed a manipulated photo of himself to the general population.

> The world needs to ask itself whether it has slipped down a rabbit hole into the era of post-authenticity, where trust is the biggest casualty

Is "authenticity" the plague of the 21st century? What has transpired is that because of constantly advancing technology, it is now easier, less expensive, and quicker to produce and distribute fake contents. It even raises the question of whether Mr. Trump was key in creating the post-truth world. Or whether he was merely one of post-truth's greatest products during its formative stages. The barrier, however, has now been breached by generative AI; the horizon has been expanded further.

Today's AI avatars are able to create realistic-looking opinion page articles, fiction, paintings, and even research papers. After admitting that AI was used to create a prize-winning photograph, German photographer Boris Eldagsen declined the Sony World Photography Award in April, stating that he was curious to find out if contests were ready for AI photos to enter. Evidently, they were not.

We witness an AI-generated image of Pope Francis donning a stylish puffer jacket, unsettling deep fakes of well-known actors, and potentially harmful audio or video clips amid important elections. Due to social media's magical ability, they quickly reach millions and are capable of orchestrating irreversible damage before being identified as fake and debunked. Furthermore, we would never know the exact number of unidentified "fake" news stories, articles, images, audio or video clips, and research papers. The shade of uncertainty widens.

'Infocalypse' is imminent

According to AI scientist Nina Schick, "Infocalypse", the biggest information and communications crisis in world history, is imminent. Further, the boundary between mainstream and social media is getting blurred. For instance, in October, the fake news of Amartya Sen's passing swept the media, originating with a post on social media.

Have we slipped down the rabbit hole of AI and social media and into the era of post-authenticity? "Trust," however, is the biggest casualty in effect. In his 2021 book of the same name, journalist Michael Grothaus described how society is transforming into a place where we would "Trust No One".

Today, anyone may cast a doubt on anything by just publicly doubting its authenticity, regardless of how real it is. It helps the bad actors; in 2018, American law professors Bobby Chesney and Danielle Citron popularised the phrase "liar's dividend". The greatest risk to mankind is that we might soon cease to take anything at face value.

Because of AI's presumed ability to create seemingly convincing text and data, researchers and journal editors are becoming increasingly concerned about integrity. Allegations of falsified or wrong data on various topics important to the common people, such as GDP, employment, inflation, and COVID-19-related statistics, frequently rock different societies. With the AI boom, the falsification of data and text could evolve into a new realm in this post-authentic age.

Hazy lines

The lines separating truth from falsehood, right from wrong, love and hate, and war and peace, are becoming more and more hazy in this post-truth era. We understand that "authenticity", which is inherently like an honest "performance", remains elusive because fake news's post-authenticity is a social issue that is a sign of waning "trust" in a common civic endeavour rather than a purely technological or media problem. Technology's glitter is not helping society either.

But we still strive for authenticity and an illuminating, trustworthy future for mankind, even when it seems like we are heading towards a dystopian future in which we would "Trust No One". Sadly.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Canisters, chaos, questions

Persons jumping into the Lok Sabha chamber while the House is in session and releasing some unknown gas from canisters, creating panic and chaos, is no small security breach. The Speaker of the House seems to own the responsibility of the security of the House, exonerating the government. The Opposition's demand that the Prime Minister and the Home Minister should reach the House and offer an explanation is visibly justifiable. The Opposition's fervent chanting with its demands was not taken in its true spirit by the Speaker or the government. Instead, that was described as 'disrupting the proceedings' leading to many suspensions. This is most undemocratic and looks to evade the main question.

P.R.V. Raja,
Pandalam, Kerala

First pepper spray and now smoking canisters. The chinks in the armour of three-layered security for Parliament have been exposed. We Indians take everything for granted and are loath to learn from our failures. Be it train accidents, bridge collapses, tunnels caving in, stampedes. After the initial reactions, we become complacent till the next incident.

Prabhu Raj R.,
Bengaluru

The coloured narrative that is spun by some of our politicians against the Opposition, and, unfortunately, highlighted by sections of the media repeatedly, is reaching dangerous proportions. Just imagine what would have happened had the MP who had issued the pass to those who had violated Parliament been from the Opposition or the perpetrators from the minority community. A false narrative would have taken deep roots and many would have been targeted. Will the Speaker respond as quickly as he seemed to have in the case of Mahua Moitra?
It is time to call a halt to all politicians making vague allegations. They should concentrate on the main issues which affect people.

Hemachandra Basappa,
Bengaluru

This unfortunate incident should not cause hurdles for those citizens who truly intend to witness and learn about the Parliament business from the visitors' gallery. The incident has also highlighted how not only a 'password" but also a 'pass' can create unhappy scenarios if not dealt with appropriately.

Jiji Panicker K.,
Anjilimoodu, Chengannur, Kerala

Climate talk

The climate talks, which are annual affairs, seem to be only hyped up without anything substantial resulting from them. Progress at the COP28 in Dubai has been disappointing with only a fraction of what is required happening. There have only been lots of general exhortations and no clearly defined targets in sight. There seems to be 'no chance' of the world staying within the 1.5° C threshold. What is needed is that all of us should realise that we need a 'whole-society transformation'.

Dr. Thomas Palocaren,
Vellore, Tamil Nadu

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

Is India doing enough to tackle climate change?

Karthik Ganesan

is Director, Research Coordination, Council on Energy, Environment and Water

Harjeet Singh

is Head of Global Political Strategy at Climate Action Network International

PARLEY

In a historic first, all 198 signatories to the 28th United Nations' Conference of the Parties (COP28) adopted an agreement to "transition away" from "all fossil fuels" as opposed to only coal, as was agreed upon at COP26, in Glasgow. India had played a pivotal role in Glasgow in modifying the language from "phasing out" coal to "phasing it down". Unsurprisingly, it supported the incumbent COP President Sultan Ahmed Al-Jaber of the UAE when he proposed to "transition away" from oil and gas, as opposed to "phasing out", as demanded by several developed countries and small island nations. As the third largest emitter of greenhouse gases, albeit with a drastically smaller per capita emission rate, should India set a higher bar to mitigate and adapt to climate change? Karthik Ganesan and Harjeet Singh discuss the question in a conversation moderated by **Kunal Shankar**. Edited excerpts:

What are your thoughts on the UAE Consensus adopted at COP28?

Harjeet Singh: This COP has been different for many reasons. [It was held] in a petrostate and headed by an oil company chief. But the outcomes have been unprecedented and historic. The Loss and Damage Fund (LDF) has been operationalised, which was a hard-won victory. The text (UAE Consensus) is historic because for the first time it talks about 'transitioning away from fossil fuels' in energy systems in a 'just, orderly and equitable manner'. Of course, as civil society, our demand was a fossil fuel phase out, which did not happen. There were a lot of mentions of so-called zero to low emission technologies such as renewables. That is fine, but nuclear abatement, removal technologies, carbon capture and utilisation storage, and low carbon hydrogen production are massive loopholes, which are going to provide cover to the fossil fuel industry to prolong its business.

Karthik, do you view the COP28 outcome as being reasonable? What do you think is the role of developing countries in this regard?

Karthik Ganesan: Just to clarify, it is actually the phasing out of fossil fuel subsidies, but really, it's transitioning away from fossil fuels in the energy system and phasing down the unabated use of coal. It's a maze of words. What is clear is that subsidies for fossil fuels must go, but the reality is that if you don't have alternatives to fossil fuels, you have to keep subsidising them because a large part of the population still relies on subsidies to consume energy. So, without the active phase out of these commodities, phasing out subsidies alone is very unlikely.

Having said that, is this a desirable outcome? No. It is pretty weak in terms of ambition. Developing countries will keep bringing back to the table the problem of financing and that will be the reason for a lack of action on their part. This is where it becomes dicey. For, developing countries, including India, will face the impacts of climate change that will have costs on the economy. India is a net importer of a lot of fossil fuels. It imports 80% of all its petroleum demand, nearly 50% or more of its gas demand, and a sizeable amount of its coal demand. Given this, it is in India's interests to see how it can bring together industry leaders and the financing ecosystem to channel resources to hasten the transition domestically and create jobs and industrial value add within the economy. It's happening in some way through the PLI (performance-linked incentive) scheme which speaks specifically to solar and battery technology. But it's not happening at a scale at which India needs it – primarily because the dependence on the current energy ecosystem is significant for revenues. India needs to be clear that the impacts of climate change are going to be far more than what we have to gain by continuing our sustenance on fossil fuels.

A woman works at a coal depot in Ahmedabad. AP

Harjeet, the LDF has only raised about $700 million when we require trillions to address climate impacts. Developing countries still do not seem to have the know-how to effectively de-carbonise several of their sectors. How could they then be expected to raise their ambition?

HS: We are not happy with the overall outcome, but there are several references now to 1.5°C in the energy section, which is what we were pushing for. Talking about deep, rapid and sustained reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, 1.5°C is fundamental for India but

> India needs to be clear that the impacts of climate change are going to be far more than what we have to gain by continuing our sustenance on fossil fuels.
> KARTHIK GANESAN

more importantly, for other vulnerable countries in the Pacific. And that also connects to your point on the LDF. More fossil fuels and emissions equal more loss and damage. What we got at COP28 was a compromise after 30 years. Yes, $700 million is not enough, but we see this as a major victory for climate justice movements and for vulnerable countries.

If you look at technology transfer and development that the Technology Executive Committee has been doing, they have decided to establish a technology implementation programme and that has to be supported by the financial mechanism. This has been extremely slow for developing countries for the transition towards renewable energy. It is absolutely critical that there are no trade barriers. It looks like as a package developing countries really insisted upon it and there's going to be some movement going forward.

India is in a Catch-22 situation on fossil fuels. While accepting the common but differentiated responsibility argument, is there anything that India could do more to address climate impacts?

KG: It comes down to what we consider as our economic paradigm for growth. Unfortunately, we are still wedded to the notion of GDP. Coal, for instance, has environmental consequences and is valued around ₹50,000 crore in output today. The solar PV sector is valued at ₹7,000 crore and growing within the domestic economy. So, coal is about 20 times the size of the solar economy as far as domestic value is concerned. The bottom line is that we need to run the economy and the problem is that this seems to be the narrow focus. One can say that for a developing economy, livelihoods must come before the environment. This is the trade-off that is always discussed, but it shouldn't be a binary. For instance, our air quality standards are significantly more lax than what the World Health Organization puts out. Unless we start thinking about what is it that we are getting from economic growth and how it speaks to equity of outcomes for different parts of the population, we will continue to prioritise what works for the majority. This may not even be a numerical majority. It may be a majority in the way that they control some of the decisions that are being made. Each of these stakeholders is ultimately trying make India's GDP grow. The government and stakeholders must come together and think of the metric through which we should assess whether this next step that we're taking for economic growth also speaks to our long-term environmental interests.

HS: I would argue that environment has to be at the centre of our growth paradigm. The discourse on de-growth has begun. Of course, rich countries have to do more. I'm not trying to apply that to developing countries where millions still don't have access to adequate electricity or other energy sources. But India must have its own developmental paradigm and not blindly follow the same model that has brought destruction.

Some might say that India will soon be a $3 trillion economy and so it must contribute towards loss and damage.

KG: This is the dichotomy that India has always faced. It is a regional power and an emerging economy. Smaller developing countries look up to India's leadership. For that reason, I think India must ensure that it is able to transfer a lot of its learnings to other economies. Now, whether that should spillover into the economic realm and its ability to contribute to the LDF for poorer economies... I think India does contribute in its own way. India has assisted Sri Lanka, East Africa. It wields enormous soft power in the region. For instance, an IIT-Madras campus was inaugurated in Zanzibar recently. India has a responsibility, and it will contribute towards soft power. But when it comes to monetary contribution (to the LDF), there are corners of India which aren't seeing the kind of financial assistance they need. So, the imperative is for charity to begin at home.

HS: In the last two years, India's engagement in the development of the LDF has increased. The National Disaster Management Authority has a role to play in the adaptation and the loss and damage negotiations. There was a natural tendency to think that India is going to be drawing money from the LDF. The expectations of Pacific nations and other vulnerable countries has been that India will be contributing. India being a large country must engage with the process and India did, in making sure that this fund is robust. But India has a lot to contribute and not just in monetary terms. It must be part of the Santiago network. India must also learn a lot. There are countries like Bangladesh who have done a lot more on disaster management.

To listen to the full interview
Scan the code or go to the link
www.thehindu.com

NOTEBOOK

Ford Mustangs at COP28

The belief that only more wealth can help us buy our way out of the crisis has gained greater ground

Jacob Koshy

I don't have any serious interest in cars but at the Dubai EXPO city, venue of the 28th edition of the United Nations climate talks, I stopped dead in my tracks at the sight of two coupes. The Ford Mustang '67s, one blue and one green, the staple of James Bond movies of a certain vintage, and serious objects of desire, were parked at an outdoor exhibition booth. Admiring visitors shot 360-degree videos and selfies, and several Emirati asked pointed questions to the marketing representatives. To my journalistic eyes, the presence of the Mustangs at the world's most high-profile climate conclave screamed incongruity. "Gas guzzlers," I thought. It was akin to a disco at a dirge, a barbeque at a PETA protest, or an Armani at the beach.

But I was wrong. The marketing executive at Charge Cars, the British startup exhibiting the models, specialised in recreating "iconic, classic cars," and making them electric. The vroom and acceleration would remain but powered by lithium-ion batteries. Clean and emission-free (we can skip the rare-earth mining for now). Every car would be custom-made. The premise of Charge Cars is that the affluent aficionado (each car costs $450,000) no longer needs to compromise on luxury and aesthetics to be a responsible climate citizen.

In many ways, the experience encapsulates one of the major dilemmas that has been driving debates and negotiations for 28 summits of the Conference of the Parties. There is the science: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change reports have synthesised mounting evidence over decades that the record-breaking rise in average, global temperature is making cyclones more frequent and furious, monsoons more erratic, and floods more destructive. Over just two centuries, humans have taken a clean break from how they made sense and organised their lives since the Stone Age. The extraction of fossil fuels has created new modes of consumption. Plastic, the most ubiquitous product of the Age of Oil, which has shape-shifted into every imaginable consumable, was used in the earliest rolls of film stock. Cinema, the gift of the gilded age, owes itself to oil. Would the music industry without its start in vinyl become what it became, if not for oil? Fossil fuel and industrial capitalism not only democratised excess but shaped our very understanding of comfort, beauty and desire.

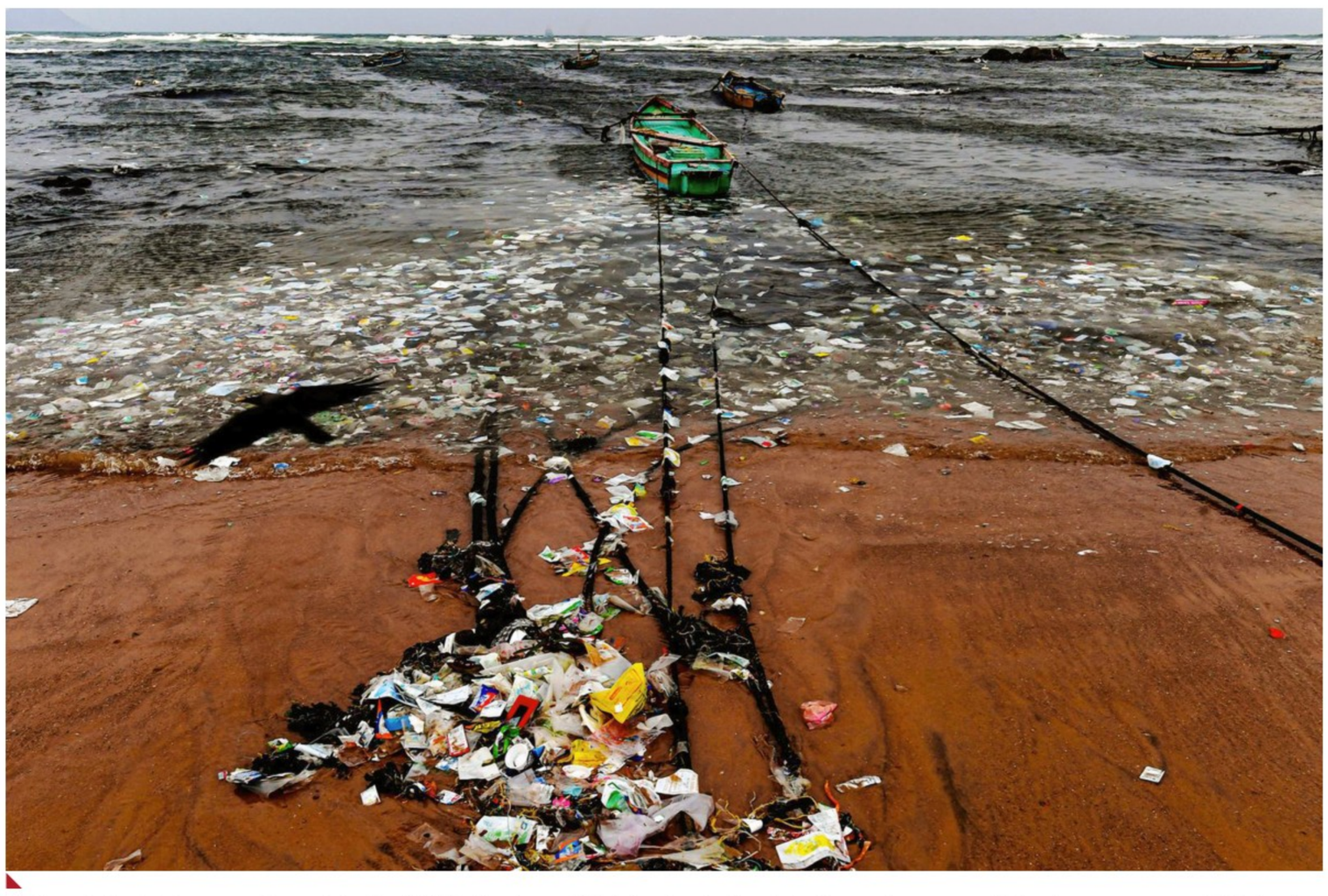
For the last two centuries, science has generally been an ally of technology, enabling new materials and goods to be made, but it has now suddenly turned adversarial. Its inconvenient truths about the conflict between industrialisation and climate processes is now asking the affluent minority of humanity – the developed world – to consciously embrace discomfort and wean off the life that they consider basic.

But would that be a life worth living? We could give up some goods, like bakelite switches, but can we give up culture and comfort? Certainly not, from what it looks like at the 'developing' end of the world. While the original climate commitment, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, envisaged a future where these two worlds would cooperate, spread the wealth, and equitably solve their way out of the crisis, things haven't quite turned out that way.

Instead, the belief that only more wealth can help us buy our way out of the crisis has gained greater ground. While we pray for the technological miracle of stumbling into the equivalent of Clean Oil, we will continue to engage on terms of mutual distrust and find small victories in newer forms of legalese. We will reassure ourselves that by flying into a different conference in a different part of the world next year, on fossil-fueled jets, we will be on our way to a "historic" solution.

PICTURE OF THE WEEK

A threat to marine life



Plastic waste floats in the sea near Lawson's Bay Beach, in Visakhapatnam. With drain water directly entering the sea at many areas, this has become a common sight in beaches after the city saw heavy rainfall triggered by Cyclone Michaung. Plastic pollution is a pressing concern in the Bay of Bengal. K.R Deepak

FROM THE ARCHIVES The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO DECEMBER 15, 1973

Court ruling on issue of validity of benches

New Delhi, Dec. 14: A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court to-day passed orders not allowing an appellant, Mr. Anil Kumar Gupta, a Delhi advocate, "to agitate collaterally" the question of the validity of the appointment of Mr. A.N. Ray, as the Chief Justice of India, and also the validity of the Constitution of various Benches of the Supreme Court by Mr. Justice Ray.

Pronouncing these orders, Mr. Justice Palekar, who presided over the Constitution Bench, said the court was not allowing the appellant "to agitate collaterally" as the points raised by him involved "consideration of facts" (relating to the appointment of Mr. Ray as the Chief Justice).

Mr. Justice Khanna, Mr. Justice Mathew, Mr. Justice Alarigiswami and Mr. Justice Bhagwati were the others on the Bench.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO DECEMBER 15, 1923

Tanjore.

The Secretary, Railway Passengers' Association, Tanjore, writes: Draft rules regarding the constitution and working of "The South Indian Railway" Local Advisory Committee, Trichinapoly, are only just now published in the Fort St. George Gazette dated 4-12-1923 though it is nearly three months since the Committee was constituted and they have had two meetings. The minutes of the two meetings have not been officially published by the Agent and there had been no secrecy in the matter.

From Page One

Terror charges invoked in security breach case

The police had requested for a 15-day remand of the accused. Before ruling on police custody, the court provided legal aid to the accused since none of them had a lawyer. One of the accused told the court that he had not spoken to his family since he was arrested.

Explaining the need for a 15-day remand, the police pointed to the geographical requirements of the probe. The submitted in the court that the accused had created a group on social media called 'Bhagat Singh Fan Club'. They had then bought shoes from Lucknow and gas canisters from Mumbai, creating a cavity in the shoes to carry the canisters into the Parliament building.

"In order to take the accused to Mumbai and Lucknow for investigation, this much time is needed," the police submitted.

The counsel for the accused argued that four or five days would be sufficient to undertake the exercise, to which the prosecutor retorted that the police have to investigate the case and not just go and touch Mysuru and Mumbai. The court later allowed seven days police custody.

The fifth accused, Vishal Sharma, in whose Gurugram home the group met, will appear in court on Friday. The sixth, Lalit Jha from Kolkata, was arrested from Kartavya Path, metres away from the Parliament building in Delhi. A police source said the accused walked to the police post on Kartavya Path and presented himself before the police. He had been absconding since the incident, allegedly with the phones of four of the other suspects. He describes himself as a "teacher" on his Instagram profile and is associated with the Samyabadi Subhas Sabha, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) in West Bengal.

At 12:43 p.m. on Wednesday, even before the chaos began inside Parliament, Mr. Jha uploaded a 30-second video clip on Facebook, showing Ms. Devi and Mr. Shinde setting off canisters emitting yellow and red smoke and shouted slogans outside the Parliament building. The video was captioned: "Protest against the dictatorship government outside the MP". At 1:04 p.m., he uploaded a longer version of the video on Instagram.

Around the same time, Mr. Jha sent the video to Nilakhya Aich, a student at the Bidhhannagar Government College in West Bengal, who is the founder of the NGO named after Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose. Mr. Aich said that Mr. Jha had asked him to save the video and watch the media coverage related to it. Mr. Aich met Mr. Jha at a seminar in Kolkata in April this year, he said.

14 Opposition MPs suspended from House

The second resolution had mentioned Mr. Parthiban's name. "I have requested the Speaker to drop the name of the member as it was a case of mistaken identity," Mr. Joshi said.

In the Rajya Sabha, Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar had first suspended Mr. O'Brien for "gross misconduct and defying the Chair" and later, the House moved a resolution to recommend the Trinamool leader's case to the Privileges Committee.

Calling the security breach as "unparalleled," Leader of the Opposition in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge, on behalf of the INDIA bloc, wrote to Mr. Dhankhar to allow a discussion on it under Rule 267, one that entails voting.

The government accused the Opposition of "politicising a grave national security issue", while the Congress described the suspension as "murder of democracy" and accused the BJP of reducing the Parliament to being "a mere rubber stamp". Mr. Kharge, in a post on X (formerly Twitter), asked if it was a "crime" to ask the Home Minister to make a statement and claimed that the suspension had "draconian shades of dictatorship".

Follow CBI manual on seizure of electronic devices: SC to agencies

The court said the procedure under the manual should be followed till the Centre brings out new guidelines in six weeks; the petitioners have argued that the personal electronic devices cannot be seized and kept in custody indefinitely

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday ordered the Centre to adhere to directives in the CBI Manual to protect the integrity of personal data stored in electronic devices seized during searches conducted, especially, on members of the academia and media.

Appearing before a Bench of Justices Sanjay Kishan and Sudhanshu Dhulia, Additional Solicitor-General S.V. Raju said this would mean training the personnel of the other agencies in the CBI's manual. "Train them! They are trained for other things. Why can't they be trained to do this?" Justice Kaul asked.

Senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan and advocate Prasanna S., for petitioners, said the CBI Manual may not extensively protect the corruption of data or malicious implanting of files in confiscated devices. Ms. Ramakrishnan said the manual only mandated the sharing of the "hash value" or the unique electronic fingerprint of the data in a seized device.

Rules required: The Centre told the court that meetings are under way on the framing of the guidelines. ISTOCK

"But you're getting something now. Till today you did not even get a hash value. If they follow the CBI Manual, you will get at least the minimum, the hash value," Justice Dhulia told Ms. Ramakrishnan.

The court said the procedure under the CBI Manual would be followed till the Centre brings out new guidelines in six weeks. The Centre said meetings are under way on the framing of the guidelines. Some of the existing materials being considered including the CBI Manual itself, suggestions from the petitioners in the case and the Karnataka Cyber Crime Investigation Manual. Mr. Raju said the guidelines would take a maximum of three months to finalise. The court listed the case on February 6.

The case would come up before a different Bench in February as Justice Kaul is retiring on December 25.

For several hearings, the government has managed a certain air of ambiguity about the new guidelines, saying it was still in the works. The Bench headed by Justice Kaul has been hearing the case for nearly two years.

The petitioners, Professors Ram Ramaswamy, Sujata Patel, M. Madhava Prasad, Mukul Kesavan and Deepak Malghan, have argued that personal electronic devices cannot be seized and kept in the custody of probe agencies indefinitely. At most, they could take copies of the material or content in the devices. The lawyer said they have separately given their suggestions for the proposed guidelines.

"This is an immediate issue. Some 300 devices have been seized from around 90 journalists... How will you feel if someone comes to your house and seizes and reads your letters... This is a complete assault on journalistic freedom," Ms. Ramakrishnan had argued.

The academics have contended that the seizure of their personal digital devices amounted to a violation of their right to privacy and they run the risk of losing their life's work when police carry off their computers and drives after a raid. The case resonates with issues raised by recent the Delhi Police raids on journalists and activists in the *NewsClick* case.

"Members of a civilised democratic society have a reasonable expectation of privacy. Privacy is not the singular concern of journalists or social activists. Every citizen of India ought to be protected against violations of privacy. It is this expectation which enables us to exercise our choices, liberties, and freedom," the Supreme Court had held in its judgment in the Pegasus case in October 2021.

The Union Home Ministry, however, maintained that while laptops, computers and mobiles were commonly used in contemporary society, criminals also "use these devices in the facilitation of their unlawful activities".

PDP questions BJP 'blunders' in Kashmir in mouthpiece

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) mouthpiece, *Speak Up*, on Thursday launched a scathing attack on the Centre, just days after the Supreme Court upheld the move to end Jammu and Kashmir's special constitutional position.

In an article titled, "From citizens to slaves", the mouthpiece said a government strives to empower and enrich, whereas an occupation's aim is to disempower, dispossess, and exploit. "But when you find yourself asking this question over and over, it's quite possible you already know the answer," it said.

Referring to Home Minister Amit Shah's speech in Parliament after the SC upheld the Centre's move to end J&K's special status in 2019, it said, "Mr. Shah found himself mourning the loss of Pakistan-occupied Kashmir. Instead of ruminating over Jawaharlal Nehru's "blunders", the BJP needs to ask themselves what they have done for Indian Kashmir since they came to power in 2014."

Allahabad High Court allows survey of Mathura's Shahi Idgah mosque

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The Allahabad High Court on Thursday allowed an application seeking appointment of a court commission to inspect the Shahi Idgah mosque, which sits next to the Krishna Janambhoomi temple in Mathura.

The inspection will be done by a court-monitored three-member team of advocate commissioners, and the modalities and composition of the commission will be decided on December 18.

The order comes at a time when the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) is already conducting a scientific survey of the Gyanvapi mosque in Varanasi.

The order of inspection of the Shahi Idgah was pronounced by Justice Mayank Kumar Jain. The plea was filed on behalf of Hindu deity, Bhagwan Shri Krishna Virajman and seven others, who in their original suit pending before this court, have claimed that the mosque was built over Krishna Janmabhoomi land, on the orders of Aurangzeb in 1670.

Historical monument: The main suit seeks the removal of the mosque from the over 13-acre complex it is built on. R.V. MOORTHY

The main suit seeks the removal of the mosque from the over 13-acre complex it is built on.

In the plea seeking appointment of a commission for inspection of the property in dispute situated at Katra Keshav Dev, Mathura, the plaintiffs claimed that there are number of signs that establish that the building in question was a Hindu temple. This includes *kalash* and a pinnacle on top of the building that exemplifies Hindu architectural style, which is not present on any Islamic structure. Also, a pillar located above the main gate of the property has a lotus-shaped top, a classic characteristic of Hindu temples.

"The image of Sheshnaag, one of the Hindu deities, is etched on the wall of the current structure. According to Hindu scriptures, Lord Sheshnaag protected Lord Shri Krishna on the night of his birth. At the base of the pillar in the present structure, one can see visible Hindu religious symbols and engravings," the plaintiffs said.

Objecting to the plea for appointment of the commission, the respondents – the Uttar Pradesh Sunni Central Waqf Board and three others – submitted in the court that the main suit was filed in the year 2020 and the present application was preferred in 2023, with no reason being assigned by the plaintiffs for the delay.

The High Court then noted that the application for appointment of commission was filed by the plaintiffs on the first date of hearing before this court.

Won't interfere if a case is already listed before a judge: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

D.Y. Chandrachud

Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud categorically said on Wednesday he will not intervene to shift cases already listed for hearing before a Supreme Court judge. "If the case is listed before a judge, the judge will take a call. I will not say anything," the Chief Justice said emphatically.

The Chief Justice was responding to an urgent oral mentioning made by former Delhi Minister Satyendar Jain's lawyer, represented by senior advocate A.M. Singhvi, in the morning about the listing of his bail petition in the Delhi liquor policy case before a Bench headed by Justice Bela M. Trivedi on December 14.

Mr. Singhvi said a Special Bench of Justices A.S. Bopanna and Trivedi was already hearing the case.

"We have been arguing before the Special Bench. The case is already partially heard. Now, today, it has been listed before a Bench headed by Justice Trivedi. Let it continue to be heard by the earlier Special Bench," Mr. Singhvi urged the Chief Justice.

Post-lunch, when the court re-convened, the Chief Justice informed Mr. Singhvi that there had been a communication from the office of Justice Bopanna that he could not resume his judicial duties after the Diwali vacation due to medical reasons. The judge's office had asked all the part-heard matters before him to be released. Consequently, the case of Mr. Jain was shifted to the puisne judge, Justice Trivedi, on the Bench. "It is very easy to fling allegations and letters," the Chief Justice said. Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta said the "only way to deal with malicious letters is by ignoring them".

This development on Mr. Jain's bail plea has come amid a shadow cast by the letters of two senior lawyers – Dushyant Dave and Prashant Bhushan – to the Chief Justice and the Supreme Court Registry. Both lawyers have alleged "irregularities" in the listing of other cases in the top court.

Mr. Dave had said cases involving human rights, freedom of speech, democracy and functioning of statutory and constitutional institutions were suddenly "taken away" from Benches hearing them and listed before other Benches.

Mr. Bhushan had written about the trajectory of a batch of petitions filed by advocates and journalists charged under the UAPA for their work and critical views about the State response to the Tripura violence of October 2021.

After seven months, 64 bodies airlifted to various Manipur districts for last rites

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI/IMPHAL

The bodies of 64 people who died during the ethnic violence in Manipur more than seven months ago were airlifted on Thursday to various locations in the State for the last rites.

The airlifting of the bodies followed the Supreme Court's November 29 directive to the Manipur government seeking "decent and dignified" disposal of unclaimed bodies of those killed in the ethnic conflict.

Officials in the State said 60 bodies of people belonging to the Kuki-Zo community were flown from Imphal to specified locations in Churachandpur and Kangpokpi districts. Similarly, the bodies of four Meiteis were flown from Churachandpur town to Imphal.

Search operation: Army and police personnel during a combing operation at Kanto Sabal village near Imphal in June. AFP

The bodies were lying at the morgues of two hospitals in Imphal and one in Churachandpur.

They were taken out amid tight security at both places and handed over to members of their families at the destinations.

According to the Indigenous Tribal Leaders' Forum (ITLF), 41 bodies were flown to Churachandpur and 19 to Kangpokpi, both Kuki-majority hill districts. Two helicopters made several sorties to transport the bodies.

Mass burial

"The mass burial of 19 of our people will take place at Phaijang village in Kangpokpi on Friday," an ITLF spokesperson said.

The date for the last rites of the 41 others in Churachandpur has not been finalised.

The Committee on Tribal Unity, a Kuki-Zo organisation, announced a 12-hour "total shutdown" in Kangpokpi district from 5 a.m. on Friday for the funeral services.

A committee constituted to review humanitarian aspects, including compensation and rehabilitation, said there were 88 unclaimed and six unidentified bodies in different parts of Manipur.

The bodies were not claimed earlier due to security reasons after the violence divided the State ethnically.

Soon after the last of the bodies reached Churachandpur, the ITLF asked the Kuki-Zo people to refrain from overtly conspicuous Christmas and New Year celebrations "during these hard times".

Form nodal authority for declared foreigners, Gauhati HC tells Assam

The Hindu Bureau
GUWAHATI

The Gauhati High Court has asked the Assam government to constitute a nodal authority for a person declared a foreigner to report to or be produced before.

The court on Wednesday heard a writ petition by Kuddus Ali, who challenged the 2017 judgment of a Foreigners' Tribunal (FT) in western Assam's Barpeta declaring him a non-citizen. The argument in the case revolved around the rights and entitlements of a person declared a foreigner during the period of his stay in India, particularly in Assam.

Judges Achintya Malla Bujor Barua and Robin Phukan dismissed the petition while observing that they did "not notice any illegality or unreasonableness" in the view of the FT and that Mr. Ali would have to be declared a foreigner who entered Assam after March 25, 1971.

The date is the cut-off point for the detection and deportation of "illegal migrants" or foreigners in Assam.

State's Additional Advocate-General G. Mazumdar said a declared foreigner would have to return the documents issued to him as an Indian citizen and the authorities would have to take necessary steps such as deleting his name from the voters' list, and taking over his land, and prohibiting him from continuing in any post, position, or status he may have incorrectly acquired while claiming to be an Indian citizen.

APPEAL

Harivarshan is 1 year boy suffering from Retinoblastoma. His family is extremely poor and cannot afford the huge expenditure of **Rs.7,00,000/-** to undergo Chemotherapy, Radiation therapy and surgery at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. He needs your generous contribution blessings and support. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No.:60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartment O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/28235324/7338978027. E-Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.** website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

WWS

A day after security breach, several changes take effect in Parliament

Extra layer of security deployed in Parliament; visitors' entry clamped down; one of the entrance and exit gates to the new building has now been exclusively reserved for MPs, segregating them from the rest of the crowd, including the media; gate for the employees has also been changed

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

On the lookout: Security personnel keeping vigil at Parliament building in New Delhi on Thursday. A series of meetings to review security protocol and rectify loopholes have brought several changes. ANI

The Parliament building stood sullenly silent on Thursday, a day after a major security breach, when two men jumped from the visitors' gallery into the Lok Sabha chamber.

There were no milling crowds on its grounds, no selfie takers, and no MPs giving sound bites. There was a blanket ban on visitors, except for a group of school students who marched in funereal silence accompanied by their teachers and closely guided by the security staff. Wednesday's cacophony was loudly conspicuous by its absence.

A series of meetings to review security protocol and rectify loopholes have brought several changes. One of the entrance and exit gates to the new building has now been exclusively reserved for MPs, segregating them from the rest of the crowd.

The media was kept at an arm's length, with security pushing journalists closer to the old building and carefully barricading the MPs' entrance to ensure that none could come in their way. Any MP wishing to speak to journalists now has to cross multiple barricades. No one, including media personnel, are allowed to stand for more than a few minutes in the corridors.

The MPs, too, have been told to slow down, with no more sprinting in and out of the gates. In a Parliamentary bulletin published on Wednesday night, hours after the incident, MPs were asked to approach the "flap barriers slowly and wait till their image is captured by the Facial Recognition Device". Former MPs too have been barred from entering Parliament.

Staff face changes

The entrance and exit gates for the Parliament staff have also been changed. Many walked around disoriented in the new building, losing their way in the maze-like corridors and asking for directions. "We could enter from the Makar Dwar (the common gate for the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha chambers) and we had memorised our way to our office through it. Now, we have to figure it out once again," one staffer said.

Even before the incident, there was a three-tier security structure in place for visitors. Barricades are placed at least 200 metres away from the Parliament building to check their passes.

Valid pass-holders are then frisked twice before they can reach the visitors' gallery. On Thursday, there was an enhanced security cover, with sniffer dog squads patrolling the grounds.

Walking out of the chambers of both Houses to nearly empty lobbies, several MPs appreciated the orderly atmosphere. However, security personnel who are under immense pressure after yesterday's slip-up said that they were overworked, warning that their present strength is not sufficient to cover the building's multiple doors, both opening out to the grounds and inside in the lobby and the chambers.

Accused had carried out a 'well-planned conspiracy': police

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Seeking custody of the four persons arrested for the security breach in Parliament on Wednesday, the Delhi Police told the Patiala House Court on Thursday that the accused had posted pamphlets on social media claiming that Prime Minister Narendra Modi was a "missing person" and a "proclaimed offender".

The Delhi Police have invoked provisions of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act against the accused – Manoranjan D., Sagar Sharma, Amol Shinde, and Neelam Devi.

On Thursday, the court sent them to police custody for seven days.

Legal aid for accused

Before taking a call on the police custody, the court provided legal aid to the accused as they were unrepresented.

Additional Public Prosecutor Atul Srivastava informed the Special Judge for NIA cases, Hardeep Kaur, that the act was "a well-planned conspiracy" and "attack" on the Parliament of India. The accused could be associated with "terrorist organisations", he said. "Please see the pamphlet [they posted on social media]. It has a picture of our Prime Minister who is shown as a 'missing person'. They have declared a reward to be paid by a Swiss bank [for finding him]... they tried to show the PM as a 'proclaimed offender'," Mr. Srivastava said while seeking custody of the accused for 15 days.

The police said that the accused had created a social media group called 'Bhagat Singh Fan Club'. They bought shoes from Lucknow and gas canisters from Mumbai. The shoes had cavities to hide the canisters, the police said.

Tender for redevelopment of Parliament security infra was floated a day before incident

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The tender, at an estimated cost of ₹35 crore, is to redevelop the reception lounge and other security infrastructure

The Central Public Works Department (CPWD) had floated a tender for additional security infrastructure for the Parliament complex, including security gadgets and bulletproof enclosures, on December 12, a day before the security breach in the Lok Sabha took place. The CPWD comes under the ambit of the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry.

Two men jumped from the public gallery into the Lok Sabha chamber on Wednesday, carrying gas canisters. They were overpowered by MPs who handed them over to the security staff.

Two more persons sprayed coloured smoke and shouted slogans outside the Parliament premises.

The tender document, "Redevelopment of reception lounge & other security infrastructure in Parliament Complex, New Delhi", had an estimated cost of ₹35 crore and was published on Tuesday. The department invited prequalification bids for the project, setting December 22 as the deadline for submission of bids. It states that financial bids will be invited from pre-qualified bidders at a later date.

In view of the high degree of security concerns at the site and the kind of work involved, stringent access-control measures will be exercised for the entry and exit of manpower, material, and construction equipment during project implementation, the document said.

"The bidder is advised to visit the site of work, at his own cost, and examine it and its surroundings himself to collect all information that he considers necessary for proper assessment of the prospective assignment," it said. "Reception lounge & other security infrastructure along with E&M [electrical and mechanical] services required to be executed, work also includes security gadgets, Bullet Proof Morchas etc. The contractor shall plan resources accordingly," it added.

The chosen contractor must execute the work in three shifts with a large manpower of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers, experienced supervisors, and professional engineers, it said.

Haryana panchayat seeks release of Neelam

The Hindu Bureau
GURUGRAM

A day after Neelam Devi, a resident of Haryana's Jind, was arrested in connection with the security breach in Parliament in New Delhi, the local *khap* and farmer leaders as well as social activists held a panchayat in Narwana on Thursday seeking her release and withdrawal of charges under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

Adopting a three-point resolution at the panchayat, Haryana Sanyukt Kisan Morcha member Azad Palwa said Ms. Devi had raised her voice against unemployment, dictatorship and over the issues faced by farmers and small traders. He said the method adopted by the youth may not be right, but the panchayat supported the issues raised by them.

"Her intention was not to harm anyone," he said.

INBRIEF

BJP IT cell trying to divert attention from issue: Cong.

The Congress on Thursday accused the BJP's IT department head Amit Malviya of seeking to divert attention from the Parliament security breach, and said the intruders were given access to the House by a BJP MP. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said this after Mr. Malviya shared pictures in which a woman arrested in connection with Wednesday's incident is seen purportedly campaigning for the Congress. In a post on X, Mr. Ramesh said: "BJP IT Cell desperately wants to divert attention from 2 facts: 1. There was a very serious breach in the security of Parliament. 2. The intruders who breached Lok Sabha security in a shocking manner had been given access to the Parliament by Pratap Simha, BJP MP from Mysuru." PTI

Up to Parliament to take call on issue of names of parties: HC

The Delhi High Court on Thursday observed that the plea seeking de-registration of political parties having names with caste, religious, ethnic or linguistic connotations has to be decided by Parliament as it is not in the domain of judiciary. "These are policy issues and they need to be dealt with by the Parliament. We don't make laws... If we decide this, we will be entering into the policy domain," the court said, hearing a petition by lawyer Ashwini Kumar Upadhyay. Mr. Upadhyay said while individuals could not seek vote in the name of religion or caste, political parties could be formed using religious connotations which could not be permitted. The court, however, said, "You are talking about the names of these parties. Name is not the clincher. You have to see the policies of the political parties. You will have to see how they are functioning". The High Court posted the case for further hearing on May 7, 2024.

Iran set to remove visa requirement for Indians

Iran is expected to remove visa requirement for Indian travellers. According to an announcement from Tehran, India is on a visa-exemption list that has 32 other countries, including Russia, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Japan and the UAE. According to a report in the official Iranian News Agency (IRNA), the move is aimed at boosting the flow of tourists into Iran. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, India already has a visa-exemption agreement with Iran that caters to Indian diplomats but this is the first time that Tehran has included ordinary Indian passport holders on the list. Iran's Tourism Minister Ezzatollah Zarghami told IRNA news agency that the decision is aimed at bringing in more visitors as well as to fight "Iranophobia" that is visible in Western channels. India has recently been placed on similar visa-exemption lists of countries such as Malaysia and Sri Lanka.

Absent DMK MP Parthipan cries foul over suspension

B. Kolappan
CHENANI

Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) leader S.R. Parthipan, who represents Salem constituency in the Lok Sabha, said he was upset that he had been suspended from the House on Thursday even though he was not there when the event took place.

"The way Parliament is being run makes me sad. They could not identify a member of the House. This clearly shows that the DMK is being targetted," Mr. Parthipan charged.

He said he could not go to the House because he was not well. "The climate of Delhi caused a dry cough and I was taking rest after doctors gave me an injection. I came to know about my suspension only when my friend called me to inform me about the development," he said.

The DMK leader's suspension from the Lok Sabha was later revoked.

On the draw

Trinamool flays MP's suspension

Press Trust of India
KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress on Thursday criticised the Centre for suspending its Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien and called for the immediate resignation of Union Home Minister Amit Shah over the security breach in Parliament.

Mr. O'Brien was suspended from the Rajya Sabha for the remainder of the Winter Session.

The Trinamool accused the government of failing to ensure the safety of Parliament. "An MP has every right to ask questions, even if they are uncomfortable. The BJP is trying to deflect attention from its failures," said Trinamool spokesperson Kunal Ghosh.

"Suspension and expulsion have become two potent tools of the BJP government to intimidate the Opposition. However, such threats won't yield any results," he said.

In its first meet, Chhattisgarh Cabinet clears proposal to provide 18 lakh rural homes

The Hindu Bureau
RAIPUR

In its first Cabinet meeting held on Thursday, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government of Chhattisgarh cleared the proposal to implement the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana for over 18 lakh poor families in rural areas.

The promise of constructing these houses was one of the key pre-election promises made by the BJP. Announcing the decision at a press conference, Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai said earlier the poor did not get the benefit of the Central scheme.

"In our first cabinet meeting, the only decision taken was providing 18 lakh poor people [homes under] the PM Awas Yojna. A decision has been taken, and soon, this will be implemented. We are doing the needful," Mr. Sai said. Later, a government media statement pegged the number of sanctioned houses at 18,12,743.

Taking action: Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai with Deputy Chief Ministers Arun Sao and Vijay Sharma on Thursday. PTI

On another pre-election promise of paying outstanding bonus to paddy farmers for two pending during the previous BJP government, he reiterated his earlier announcement that the said bonus will be given on December 25, the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

Mr. Sai accused the previous Congress government of leaving the State in financial crunch. Later, answering a query on the availability of funds to fulfil BJP's pre-poll promises in the State, he added that the State had a double engine government [implying BJP governments in Chhattisgarh and at the Centre] and that it would "move fast".

The Chief Minister accused the previous regime of encouraging the religious conversion to seek votes and said his government would explore ways to keep a check on conversions.

Cong. to field late MLA's son in Karanpur election

The Hindu Bureau
JAIPUR

The Congress on Thursday announced Rupinder Singh Kooner as its candidate for the postponed Assembly election in Sriganganagar district's Karanpur constituency in Rajasthan. Former Minister Surendra Pal Singh is the BJP's candidate in the seat, where polling will be held on January 5.

The election in Karanpur was postponed because of the death of Congress candidate and sitting MLA Gurmeet Singh Kooner on November 15. Mr. Rupinder Singh Kooner, son of the late MLA, has been fielded by the party.

Rajasthan Congress chief Govind Singh Dotasra said the party was completely ready for the election and gave his "best wishes in advance" to Mr. Rupinder Singh Kooner for his victory. The counting of votes will take place on January 8.

INBRIEF

DGCA grants aerodrome licence for Ayodhya Airport

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation on Thursday granted aerodrome licence for the Ayodhya Airport, which will see its inaugural flight on December 30. The Airports Authority of India has developed the airport at a cost of ₹350 crore. The DGCA permit comes ahead of the Ram Mandir inauguration next month. The passenger terminal building can accommodate up to 500 passengers during peak hours. IndiGo has announced that its flight from Delhi to Ayodhya, which is scheduled for December 30, will be the inaugural flight to the airport. Its regular commercial flights will begin from January 6, which will be a daily service.

India and U.S. discuss steps to combat financial crimes

India and the U.S., in a bilateral dialogue on anti-money laundering and countering the financing of terrorism, agreed on Thursday about the pressing need to accelerate global implementation of standards for virtual assets like crypto currencies to effectively address the issue of regulatory arbitrage, the Finance Ministry said. The countries also discussed steps to enhance transparency in beneficial ownership, including the implementation of beneficial ownership registries and tools to verify information, terming this is as crucial to combat money laundering and other financial crimes. This, they noted, allows to track the flow of funds and identify those who are responsible for them.

BSF jawan killed in blast triggered by Naxalites

A jawan of the Border Security Force (BSF) was killed in a blast triggered by Naxalites in Chhattisgarh's Kanker district on Thursday, the second such death in two days, the police said. The incident occurred near Sadaktola village when a joint team of the BSF and district police force was out patrolling, an official said. BSF head constable Akhilesh Rai, 45, sustained injuries in an explosion triggered by Naxalites, he said. A search operation by a joint team of the BSF, District Reserve Guard and district police force is under way in the area, he added.

Use of sanitary pads rising among rural women: Minister

Sanitary napkin use has grown significantly in the country among rural women beneficiaries of a Union government scheme to provide easy and affordable access to menstrual health services. The scheme offers sanitary pads at a subsidised rate of one per rupee. Speaking about the impact of the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana's Jan Aushadhi Suvidha Sanitary Napkins programme, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday said, "The most encouraging trend that we have seen is that we have had an uptick in sanitary pads use in rural areas." So far, over 47.87 crore of subsidised pads have been sold at over 10,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras across the country, the Ministry said.

Urgent need to control use of e-cigarettes, says WHO

E-cigarettes with nicotine are highly addictive and harmful to health and can lead to cigarette use, it says and urges countries to implement strict measures to protect children and young people

Bindu Shajan Perappadan
NEW DELHI

E-cigarettes as consumer products are not shown to be effective for quitting tobacco use at the population level. Instead, alarming evidence has emerged on adverse population health effects, the World Health Organization said on Thursday. It added there is an urgent need to control e-cigarettes to protect children, as well as non-smokers and minimise health harms to the population.

"Children are being recruited and trapped at an early age to use e-cigarettes and may get hooked to nicotine," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said in a statement, while urging countries to implement strict measures to prevent uptake to protect citizens, especially children and young people.

The WHO said that e-cigarettes have been allowed on the open market and aggressively marketed to young people. Thirty-four countries have banned the sale of e-cigarettes, 88 countries have no minimum age at which e-cigarettes can be bought and 74 countries have no regulations in place for these harmful products. In India, the possession of e-cigarettes and similar devices is a violation of the Prohibition of Electronic Cigarette Act, 2019, according to the Union Health Ministry.

Health hazard: E-cigarettes generate toxic substances some which cause cancer and some that increase risk of heart disorders.

Even brief exposure to e-cigarette content on social media can be associated with increased intention to use these products, as well as more positive attitudes towards e-cigarettes. Studies consistently show that young people who use e-cigarettes are almost three times more likely to use cigarettes later in life, the WHO said.

Alarming figures

According to data, children in the age group of 13-15 years are using e-cigarettes at rates higher than that among adults in all WHO regions. In Canada, the rates of e-cigarette use among 16 to 19-year-olds has doubled between 2017 and 2022, and in the U.K., the number of young users has tripled in the past three years.

The world organisation noted that e-cigarettes with nicotine are highly addictive and are harmful to health. While long-term health effects are not fully understood, it has been established that they generate toxic substances, some of which are known to cause cancer and some that increase the risk of heart and lung disorders. It can also affect brain development and lead to learning disorders for young people.

Foetal exposure to e-cigarettes can adversely affect the development of the foetus in pregnant women. Exposure to emissions from e-cigarettes also poses risks to bystanders.

The WHO has said that urgent measures are necessary to prevent uptake of e-cigarettes and counter nicotine addiction alongside a comprehensive approach to tobacco control, and in light of national circumstances.

Journalists, writers express solidarity with *NewsClick* founder

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Senior journalists, writers, lawyers, academics, and activists on Thursday expressed solidarity with *NewsClick* founder and editor Prabir Purkayastha during a discussion on his book *Keeping Up the Good Fight: From the Emergency to the Present Day*.

Mr. Purkayastha is in judicial custody along with the news portal's human resources head, Amit Chakraborty. In October, they were arrested by the Delhi Police in a case registered under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act.

N. Ram, Director, The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited, who attended the event virtually, said the most interesting thing was the connection that the book drew between the Emergency of 1975-77, during which Mr. Purkayastha was jailed for a year, and what had happened in the present, "a much more serious attack in perhaps darker times".

"Institutions have been captured, institutions have been manipulated, and media freedom is under full-scale attack... Of course, there are still spaces where people speak up," Mr. Ram said.

He said the most important thing in the book for him was the lesson that today things might look bad for media freedom and for the basic human rights guaranteed in the Constitution, "but don't be pessimistic about it". "May be short-term pessimism is inevitable, but don't be pessimistic, and this is not contrived or artificially communicated in the book, I think it comes through living the experience," he said.

Stating that the book was for him a modern classic, senior advocate Sanjay Hegde hoped that it appealed to the "emoticon" generation. "We as a nation tend to value our liberties so cheaply and, possibly, one reason is that we have people like Prabir, we have in this generation people like Umar Khalid..," he said. "It is these men and women of conscience who fight the good fight, or remind us that the Constitution is a solemn compact between citizen and citizen, like this is a nation that we will work together and we will live together."

SC conditionally suspends conviction of former BSP MP

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday conditionally suspended the conviction of former Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) MP Afzal Ansari in a 2007 Gangsters Act case.

A Bench of Justices Surya Kant, Dipankar Datta and Ujjal Bhuyan, in a majority verdict, said Ansari, a former MP from the Ghazipur constituency of Uttar Pradesh, would not cast his vote in the Lok Sabha nor draw any perk but could attend the proceedings of the House.

"It is appropriate for courts to balance the interests of protecting the integrity of the electoral process in one hand, while also ensuring that constituents are not bereft of their right to be represented," the majority opinion said.

The majority verdict further directed the Allahabad High Court to dispose of Ansari's criminal appeal against his conviction and sentence by June 30, 2024.

Afzal Ansari

"It is exigent that the appellant's [Ansari's] future is not left hanging in balance due to the conviction... it is incumbent upon the court in which the appeal is pending to hear the matter out of turn and expeditiously adjudicate it," the majority opinion said.

Justice Datta dismissed the appeal of Ansari outright.

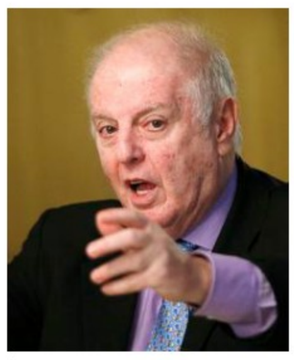
Activist Ali Abu Awwad and pianist Daniel Barenboim win Indira Gandhi Peace Prize

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Classical pianist Daniel Barenboim and peace activist Ali Abu Awwad have been named the winners of the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development for 2023 for their efforts in bringing together the youth and people of Israel and the Arab world for a non-violent resolution of the Israel-Palestine conflict.

The international jury, headed by former Chief Justice of India T.S. Thakur, observed that Mr. Barenboim and Mr. Awwad have fostered meaningful, mutual social and cultural understanding, and peaceful public cooperation through the tools of music, dialogue, and people's participation.

Mr. Barenboim is an Argentine-born classical pianist and conductor, renowned for performing with and directing some of the leading orchestras in the world. He is also known for his relentless endeavour in using music to foster harmony in West Asia.



Ali Abu Awwad and Daniel Barenboim

"His friendship and partnership with Palestinian literary scholar Edward Said shaped his vision of a peaceful resolution of Israel-Palestinian conflict through respect, discourse, and dialogue... Maestro Barenboim established the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra and the Barenboim-Said Akademie alongside Said to bring together youth from Israel, Palestine, and other Arab and North-African countries in spaces of unity and understanding," a release said.

Mr. Barenboim believes that "to make music, you have to listen. You have to listen [to] what the other one is doing, but you also have to listen [to] what you are doing and how it affects the other - this is the best school of human relations", the release said.

Mr. Awwad is a Palestinian peace activist who has been working tirelessly with the people of Palestine and Israel for a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict. Born in 1972, he was raised in a politically-active refugee family. Unable to meet each other while in prison for three years, he and his mother undertook a 17-day hunger strike, which resulted in achieving permission for a visit.

'Watershed moment'

"This success was a watershed moment in Abu Awwad's realisation that non-violent action along Gandhian principles could be the way forward for achieving one's goals of freedom and dignity," the release said.

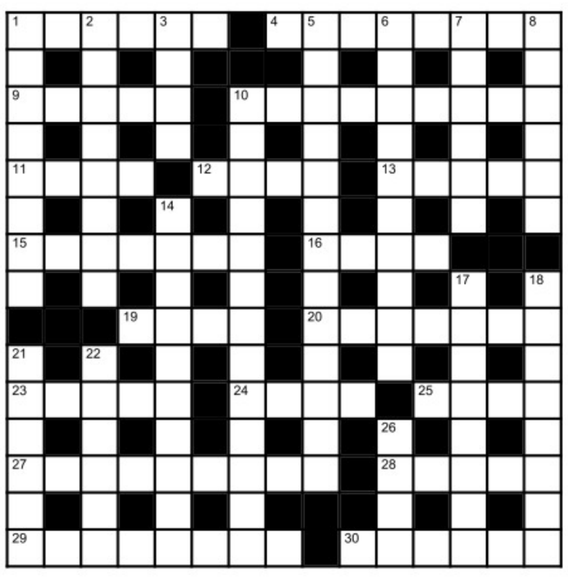
In 2014, Mr. Awwad cofounded a local Palestinian-Israeli initiative called Roots, promoting understanding, non-violence and transformation. "His peace-building efforts led to the creation of a Palestinian non-violence movement called Taghyeer which was launched by more than 3,000 Palestinians across the West Bank in September 2016."

TH CROSSWORD + 14046

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

1 Immoral woman arrested, beheaded (6)
4 Most primitive, mischievous lady in a corner sits oddly (8)
9 Crooked and heartless lackey in government... (5)
10 ...likely candidate, contesting in the front, looter, corrupt officer (9)
11 Arranged funding to back liberal (4)
12 Advances in the absence of leader to borders (4)
13 Whipped, took some broth out and consumed (5)
15 Say, match starting late, female ahead against rival (7)
16 Travel free winning agent's heart (4)
19 Dog's tail at the tip is short (4)
20 Twisted plot in the climax directed (7)
23 Party with nurse (5)
24 Beast found in Kigali only (4)
25 You being old, should be out partying without husband (4)
27 Say program at America showcasing essence of karate framework (9)
28 Rehab itinerary can contain addiction (5)
29 Distribution of shares covers small quantity; innocuous (8)
30 One is not welcome? Rips the heart out (6)

Down

1 File on fauna (8)
2 Gin, ice mixed with some lime's surely at the top of limits (8)
3 Urges two girls to participate in English class finally (4)
5 Pictures are fantasies describing art forms over time (13)
6 Claiming to interpret end in Godfather frames (10)
7 Property in East and West Bengal perhaps (6)
8 Leaders from the high ranks oppose Narendra enshrining the seat of power (6)
10 Compliments Carol aunt, gets misconstrued (13)
14 Ditch behind street gets filled by some cement, guard often takes a look in the front concerned with the building (10)
17 Letters from a leading physicist in the lab dispersed (8)
18 Changed advertisement on fair's starting & ending of Eid (8)
21 Link for dirty chat after a payment finally (6)
22 After losing opener, perhaps MS Dhoni gets down in place? More mysterious (6)
26 Poor husband came into money (4)

SUDOKU

					7			
	2		6		4	8	9	
7				1				6
		5		2				
	1	4	5		6	7	3	
				4		6		
2				5				1
	8	9	1		3		7	
			8					

No.SS6008 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

S	Y	M	M	E	T	R	Y		S	P	R	A	N	G
E		O		L		H		A		I		M		E
D	I	R	G	E		O	F	F	S	C	R	E	E	N
U		T		C		D		I		T		E		O
C	O	A	S	T	L	I	N	E		U	G	R	I	C
E		L		R		U		L		R				I
	O	S	M	I	U	M		D	I	E	H	A	R	D
V		I		C					P		P		E	
E	N	N	O	B	L	E		D	R	O	O	P	Y	
R				L		G		O		S		L		T
T	I	A	R	A		G	A	Z	E	T	T	E	E	R
I		R		N		N		I		C		T		Y
C	H	E	E	K	B	O	N	E		A	L	I	B	I
A		N		E		G		S		R		N		N
L	E	A	N	T	O		S	T	U	D	Y	I	N	G

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	4	3	6	1	5	9	8
8	5	6	9	2	4	7	3	1
1	9	3	8	7	5	4	6	2
3	8	7	2	1	9	6	5	4
2	6	9	5	4	8	1	7	3
5	4	1	7	3	6	8	2	9
6	3	5	1	8	2	9	4	7
4	1	2	6	9	7	3	8	5
9	7	8	4	5	3	2	1	6

FAITH

Magnificence of Margazhi

The Hindu calendar is so full of events that there are festivities in some home, town or temple, every day of the year. All days are good days, given to celebrating the glory of the Almighty. It is significant that the month of Marghazhi stands out and it is so for many reasons, said Tiruvidaimarudur Bramhasri Nidhiswara Shrowthigal in a discourse.

Lord Krishna in the Bhagvad Gita is describing Himself as the best among every aspect or attribute you can think of. Here, He says "*Masanam Margasirso hum*", meaning He is Margazhi among months, clearly setting the month apart from others in terms of its spiritual significance.

It is recommended that during Margazhi one arise early, conduct ablutions and pray to God or meditate or embrace spiritual practices, since the hour before sunrise, Brahma Muhurtam, is the most significant hour. A full year for human beings is equivalent to a single day for devas. The *Uttarayanam* (mid Jan to mid July) is day time and *Dakshinayanam* (mid July onwards) is night time for devas. The month of Margazhi becomes the final hour before sunrise for devas, hence it is Brahma Muhurtham for them. Devotees, especially in the southern part of the country, observe various austerities during Margazhi. The month is also known as Dhanur, since the sun transits through the zodiac Dhanus.

ANKARA

Turkish MP, who had a cardiac arrest in Parliament, dies

AP

An Opposition Turkish lawmaker died on Thursday two days after suffering a heart attack and collapsing in front of Parliament, as he finished a speech criticising the government's policy on Israel. Hasan Bitmez, 54, a Member of Parliament from the Opposition Felicity (Saadet) Party, died in Ankara City Hospital. REUTERS

HELSINKI

Finland on Monday to sign defence cooperation agreement with U.S.

AFP

Finland will on December 18 sign a defence cooperation agreement with the United States that will bring U.S. soldiers and military material to aid in the Nordic nation's defence, the Finnish government said on Thursday. Russia's Nordic neighbour Finland became the NATO's newest member earlier this year. REUTERS

LONDON

U.K. bans entry for settlers who targetted Palestinians

AFP

British Foreign Secretary David Cameron said on Thursday he was banning those responsible for settler violence against Palestinians from entering Britain. "Extremist settlers, by targeting and killing Palestinian civilians, are undermining security and stability for both Israelis and Palestinians," Mr. Cameron said on X. REUTERS

GENEVA

European Union says to resettle nearly 61,000 refugees in 2024-25

AP

The European Union has committed to resettling nearly 61,000 refugees in some of its member countries over the next two years, European Home Affairs Commissioner Ylva Johansson said on Thursday. Around 31,000 of that total would be resettled via programmes run by the UN refugee agency (UNHCR). AFP

Israel bombs Gaza as rift with the U.S. widens over civilian casualties

Israel vows to continue the offensive 'with or without international support', a day after U.S. President Joe Biden warned that its indiscriminate bombing on Gaza is eroding global support; at least 18,600 Palestinians have been killed since Oct. 7

Agence France-Presse
GAZA STRIP

Severe damage: Palestinians gathering around a destroyed building following Israeli bombardment of Rafah on Thursday. AFP

Israel bombed Gaza on Thursday in its war against Hamas militants as a top White House adviser travelled to Jerusalem with a rift growing over civilian casualties.

The war, now in its third month, began after the Palestinian group's unprecedented October 7 attacks on Israel that Israeli officials say killed about 1,200 people, mostly civilians.

In response, Israel vowed to destroy Hamas. It began a relentless bombardment and ground invasion that has left swathes of Gaza in ruins. According to the Hamas-run health ministry's latest toll, 18,608 people, mostly women and children, have been killed.

Israeli air strikes across Gaza overnight killed at least 67 more, the health ministry said.

U.S. President Joe Biden, whose government has provided Israel with billions of dollars in military aid, delivered his sharpest rebuke of the war on Wednesday. He said Israel's "indiscriminate bombing" of Gaza was eroding international support.

But Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu vowed to carry on "until victory, nothing less than that", and Foreign Minister Eli Cohen said the war would continue "with or without international support".

Timeline to end war

On Thursday, Mr. Biden's National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan was due in Jerusalem for talks with Mr. Netanyahu and his war Cabinet, a sign of the U.S.'s growing pressure on Israel.

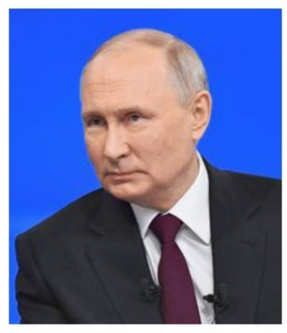
Mr. Sullivan told a *Wall Street Journal* event ahead of his trip that he would discuss a timetable to end the war and urge Israeli leaders "to move to a different phase from the kind of high-intensity operations that we see today".

Mr. Netanyahu has said there is also "disagreement" with Washington over how Gaza would be governed after the war.

Qatar-based Hamas chief Ismail Haniyeh said on Wednesday that "any arrangement in Gaza or in the Palestinian cause without Hamas or the resistance factions is a delusion".

No peace in Ukraine until goals are achieved: Putin

Associated Press
MOSCOW



Vladimir Putin

Russian President Vladimir Putin vowed on Thursday that there would be no peace in Ukraine until his goals are achieved and said those objectives remain unchanged at a year-end news conference that offers the leader an opportunity to reinforce his grip on power.

Giving rare detail on what Moscow calls its special military operation, Mr. Putin dismissed the need for a second wave of mobilisation of reservists to fight in Ukraine – a move that proved deeply unpopular in the past. He said there are some 6,17,000 Russian soldiers currently there, including around 2,44,000 troops who were called up to fight alongside professional Russian military forces.

The Russian President, who has held power for nearly 24 years and announced recently he is running for re-election, was greeted with applause as he arrived in the hall in central Moscow.

Mr. Putin did not hold his traditional press conference last year after his military failed to take Kyiv and as the Ukrainian Army retook swaths of territory in the east and south of the country.

This year, ordinary citizens have the chance to phone in questions along with those asked by journalists, and Russians have been submitting queries for Mr. Putin for two weeks.

It is the first time the Russian leader, who has heavily limited his interaction with foreign media, will potentially face multiple questions from Western journalists since the fighting in Ukraine began.

Mr. Putin's appearance is primarily aimed at a domestic audience and is a chance for him to personally resolve the problems of ordinary Russian citizens ahead of the March 17 election.

U.S. House launches Republican impeachment inquiry against Joe Biden

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

Joe Biden

The U.S. House of Representatives voted on Wednesday to formalise an impeachment inquiry into President Joe Biden, escalating Republicans' battle with Democrats ahead of the 2024 election in a move Mr. Biden himself slammed as a "baseless" stunt.

Republicans, seizing on Mr. Biden's son Hunter's controversial international dealings, have yet to provide evidence of corruption by the President, and the Democratic-led Senate would be unlikely to convict him even if the inquiry did lead to an actual impeachment trial.

Regardless, the procedure guarantees Republicans a new, high-profile platform to attack Mr. Biden as he campaigns for re-election – and to distract from the federal criminal trials facing his almost certain challenger Donald Trump.

Conservatives accuse Mr. Biden's son Hunter of trading on the family name during his business dealings in Ukraine and China.

1,100 Bangladeshi Opposition activists convicted since Sept.

Agence France-Presse
DHAKA

Opposition parties say thousands from their ranks have been arrested this year after protests

Bangladeshi courts have convicted more than 1,100 Opposition officials and activists since September, lawyers said on Thursday, a day after scores more of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's opponents were sentenced to prison.

Opposition parties say thousands from their ranks have been arrested this year after huge protests accusing Ms. Hasina of ruling with an iron fist and demanding her resignation.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) has said the cases against its members were politically motivated and aimed at crushing potential alternatives to the premier's nearly 15-year rule.

"In the past three months at least 1,093 BNP activists and several dozen activists from other Opposition parties were convicted in 69 cases," the party's legal affairs chief Kayser Kamal said.

Some of the defendants were found guilty of violence during Bangladeshi elections in 2014 and 2018.

Sanctions imposed

Bangladesh under Ms. Hasina has recorded runaway economic growth, largely on the strength of its robust garment industry that generates billions in exports each year. But rights groups say civil liberties have deteriorated during her rule.

The United States sanctioned several senior police officers in 2021, partly in response to allegations that Ms. Hasina's security forces had killed hundreds in extrajudicial encounters – charges denied by her government.

The BNP and the Islamist Jamaat-e-Islami party have staged numerous protests in Dhaka and other metropolitan centres this year ahead of elections, when Ms. Hasina will seek a fourth consecutive term in office.

Seoul scrambles jets after Chinese planes approach

Agence France-Presse
SEOUL

South Korea's military said on Thursday it scrambled fighter jets as two Chinese and four Russian military planes entered its air defence zone, an area wider than the country's airspace.

The Chinese and Russian planes entered and exited the Korea Air Defence Identification Zone (KADIZ) in the East Sea, also known as the Sea of Japan, Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said.

But "there was no invasion of airspace", it added, and the South Korean military identified the planes "before they entered KADIZ, and deployed air force fighter jets to take tactical measures in preparation for contingencies".

'Routine activity'

An air defence identification zone is a broader area than a country's airspace in which it tries to control aircraft for security reasons, but the concept is not defined in any international treaty.

China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning described the incident on Thursday as a routine flight activity".

European Union agrees to open membership negotiations with Ukraine

Associated Press
BRUSSELS

Hungarian PM Orban insist that the European Union should not yet start talks on Ukraine joining the bloc

The European Union decided on Thursday to open accession negotiations with Ukraine and Moldova. European Council president Charles Michel called it "a clear signal of hope for their people and our continent."

The decision was announced at a summit gathering leaders of the 27 EU countries.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy welcomed the decision as "a victory for Ukraine. A victory for all of Europe".

Meanwhile, Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban insisted that the European Union should not yet start talks on Ukraine joining the bloc, a lone stand-out ahead of an EU summit that comes at a critical time for Kyiv in its war against Russia. Mr. Orban is also blocking giving 50 billion euros ($54 billion) in financial aid for Kyiv from the EU budget, but signalled he could back long-term aid outside the EU budget, opening a door for some form of deal on that front.

Ukraine badly needs support from its Western allies in its nearly two-year fight against Moscow's invasion. Its counter-offensive has failed to make major gains and the Biden administration has so far been unable to get a $60 billion aid package for Kyiv through Congress.

UTTAR PRADESH NEW & RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY, (UPNEDA)
(Deptt. of Additional Sources of Energy, Govt. of U.P.)
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow, U.P. – 226010,
Mb No: 9415609005, Fax: 0522-2720779, 2720829
Website : www.upneda.org.in E-mail : ho_ajai@rediffmail.com

e- TENDER NOTICE

RfS No:- UPNEDA/NIT/RESCO-500 MW GCRT-Govt. Building/2023

Uttar Pradesh New & Renewable Energy Development Agency (UPNEDA) invites Online Bids from Prospective Bidders through ISN-ETS Portal for the following works in the state of Uttar Pradesh.

NAME OF WORK	Bid CAPACITY	Bid Processing Fees	Availability of Bid document on ISN-ETS Portal
Selection of Solar Power Developers for Setting up of 500 MW of Grid Connected Rooftop Solar PV Project on Government / Semi-Government Buildings & other Institutions in Uttar Pradesh under RESCO Model on Net-metering Basis through Tariff Based Competitive Bidding.	500 MW	Rs 29500/- inclusive of 18% GST	15.12.2023, 6:00 pm onwards

The Bid document is available at ISN-ETS Portal from **15.12.2023**. Interested bidders may view, download the Bid document, seek clarification and submit their Bid through ISN-ETS Portal upto the date and time mentioned in the table below:

(a)	Availability of tender document on website	From : **15.12.2023**
(b)	Bid submission end date & time	On: **02.01.2024** upto **6:00 pm**
(c)	Pre Bid Meeting	On: **21.12.2023** at **12:00 pm**
(d)	Online Technical bid opening date & time	On: **03.01.2024** at **11:30 am**
(e)	Financial Bid Opening date & time (Only of technically qualified bidders)	Shall be intimated later
(f)	e-Reverse Auction (e-RA)	Shall be intimated later
(g)	Venue of opening of technical & financial Bids	UPNEDA Head Office, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010

The details can be seen or downloaded from ISN-ETS Portal (www.bharat-electronictender.com).
Director, UPNEDA reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

DIRECTOR, UPNEDA

SAVE ELECTRICITY FOR YOUR BETTER TOMORROW

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, RURAL WORKS CIRCLE : SUNDARGARH
AT/PO-SANKARA, SUNDARGARH-770020, E-mail address-serw_sundargarh@yahoo.com

No.Tender Online – RWCCESNG-47 of 2023-24, Letter No.3741 /Dtd.13.12.2023

e-Procurement NOTICE

1. Type of the Work : **Road (MMSY-TRIP and SACI)**
2. Class of Contractor : As specified in the column-6 of the Annexure
3. Time of Completion : As specified in the column-5 of the Annexure
4. Detail Projects : As per Annexure attached
5. Estimated Cost : As specified in the column-4 of the Annexure
6. Other details:

Procurement Officer	Bid Identification No.	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding From	Availability of Tender on-line for bidding To	Last Date & Time of Seeking Tender Clarification	Date & Time of Opening of tender Technical Bid	Date & Time of Opening of tender Financial Bid
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh	RWCCESNG-47 of 2023-24	18.12.2023 11:00 AM	29.12.2023 5:00 PM	28.12.2023 5:00 PM	30.12.2023 11:00 AM	Will be intimated separately

● Further details can be seen from the website **www.tendersodisha.gov.in**

Chief Construction Engineer, Rural Works Circle, Sundargarh.

O-1805 : OIPR-25133/11/0063/2324

INSTITUTE ON MANAGEMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION (IMAGE)
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE OF GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA)
Siripur, BHUBANESWAR-751003, Odisha
Ph. - (0674) 2974145, E-mail : imagebbsr1999@gmail.com

No.5919/ IMAGE, Dated: 14.12.2023

RFP for selection of Agency for establishment of project management unit (PMU) under Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and allied sectors rejuvenation (RKVY - RAFTAAR)

IMAGE invites RFP for **"Selection of Agency for establishment of project management unit (PMU) under Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana - Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and allied sectors rejuvenation (RKVY- RAFTAAR)"**. The detailed RFP document can be downloaded from the website **http://tendersodisha.gov.in & www.agri.odisha.gov.in** from **dt.15.12.2023.** The last date for submitting the RFP documents alongwith Bid Processing Fees of **Rs.11,800/-** (Rupees Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred) only in favour of Director, IMAGE payable at Bhubaneswar through Speed Post/ Registered Post/ Courier/ By hand with receipt on or before **dt.09.01.2024 up to 05.00 PM**. The Technical Bids will be opened on **dt.10.01.2024 at 3.00 PM.** IMAGE reserves the right to accept or Reject any/ all proposals/ terminate the entire selection process at any stage without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
DIRECTOR, IMAGE

CAD-3279 : OIPR-01408/11/0011/2324

INBRIEF

Lupin Diagnostics eyeing 100 labs in five years: CEO Kumar

Lupin Diagnostics Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of Lupin Ltd., plans to more than double the number of its laboratories and increase collection centres by threefold across the country in five years, said a top official. "Right now, we have 36 laboratories and 600 collection centres," said CEO Ravindra Kumar during a media interaction. "Our goal is to have 100 laboratories by FY28 and 2,000 collection centres in five years," he added.

Jupiter bags ₹1,617-crore deal for 4,000 railway wagons

Jupiter Wagons Ltd. on Thursday said it has bagged a contract worth ₹1,617 crore from the Ministry of Railways. The order is for the supply of 4,000 wagons. Jupiter Group is a manufacturer of railway wagons, components for passenger coaches, and alloy steel casting for rolling stacks and tracks. It also manufactures application-based load bodies for commercial vehicles. It's other products include marine containers and refrigerated containers. PTI

Zenex Animal Health buys Ayurvet to boost portfolio

Zenex Animal Health announced the 100% acquisition of Ayurvet, a provider of natural and ayurvedic and herbal medicines, feed supplements and topical treatments for farm and companion animals for an unspecified amount. "This strategic move will enable Zenex to strengthen its portfolio of offerings by adding herbals and furthering the quality of its overall animal health portfolio globally," the company said in a statement.

Fed's surprise dovish pivot lifts Sensex to a record high

Powered by technology stocks, BSE Sensex surges 1.34% to an all-time closing high of 70,514.20; leading Sensex gainers include Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Wipro, HCL Tech and IndusInd Bank

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

India's benchmark stock indices soared to record highs on Thursday, riding on a global rally in equities triggered by Wednesday's surprise dovish pivot by the U.S. Federal Reserve.

Led by technology stocks, the S&P BSE Sensex surged 1.34% to 70,514.20, an all-time high. The top Sensex gainers included Tech Mahindra that rose 3.91%, Infosys (3.61%), Wipro (3.52%) and IndusInd Bank (2.97%). The NSE Nifty-50 index rose 1.23% to 21,182.70 points.

"Thanks to the dovish narrative from the U.S. Fed... the Nifty 50 scaled to an all-time high level and crossed the 21,100 mark for the first time," said Pranav Haridasan, MD and CEO, Axis Securities.

"The election results in three out of four key States have raised the expectations of policy continuity in 2024, boosting market confidence," he noted.

"We can see a further new high in the market if the bond yields and the crude prices remain at the same levels for the entire month," Mr. Haridasan added.

U.S. stocks rallied after the Fed "indicated it could lower rates about three times in 2024 as inflation eases," said Devarsh Vakil, Deputy Head Retail Research, HDFC Securities.

Bull run

India's benchmark indices soared to record highs, riding on a global rally in equities triggered by the U.S. Fed's dovish turn

- The NSE Nifty-50 crossed the 21,100-mark for the first time, rising 1.23% to 21,182.70 points
- We can see a fresh new high if bond yields and crude prices remain at the same levels: Axis Securities' Haridasan
- U.S. stocks rallied after the Fed indicated it could lower rates about three times in 2024

Fed's Powell says 'timing of rate cuts is next question'

Reuters
WASHINGTON

The Federal Reserve left interest rates unchanged on Wednesday and U.S. central bank chief Jerome Powell said the tightening of policy is likely over, with cuts in borrowing costs coming "into view."

Mr. Powell's remark dovetailed with projections from all 19 policymakers that showed near unanimity that borrowing costs would fall in 2024, many by a substantial margin.

While Fed policymakers did not want to take another increase off the table, it is no longer the "base case," he said. The timing of rate cuts "is really the next question," he added.

Wholesale prices rose in Nov. after a seven-month lull

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

After seven successive months of deflation, India's wholesale prices rose 0.26% in November, with primary food articles seeing a sharp 8.2% uptick, fuelled by a 21.6% spurt in pulses, 10%-plus rise in vegetables and paddy, and onion prices more than doubling from a year earlier to rise 101%.

Wholesale food prices rose 4.7% in November compared to just 1.07% in the previous month, and were 2% higher on a month-on-month basis. Prices of primary articles rose 4.8% in November from 1.8% in October, while fuel and power prices were 4.6% lower than November last year but 0.8% higher than in the month of October.

Manufactured products' prices remained in deflation though at the slightest rate since at least three months, declining 0.64% from November 2022 levels. Compared with October though, they were higher by 0.07%.

Compared with October, the WPI was up by 0.53% in November, the highest sequential uptick in four months. This was the case with the primary articles and food index as well that were sequentially up 1.3% and 1.95%, respectively, in November.

India's net direct tax receipts rise 23.4%

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's net direct tax collections had grown 23.4% to hit ₹10.64 lakh crore by November 30, attaining 58.34% of the Budget estimates for the year, the Finance Ministry said on Thursday.

The gross direct tax kitty by the end of last month had reached ₹12.67 lakh crore, a 17.7% rise over the same period of the earlier year. Refunds paid out to income tax payers had reached ₹2.03 lakh crore.

As of November 9, the gross direct tax collections stood at ₹12.37 lakh crore, while net collections were ₹10.6 lakh crore, 21.82% over last year. This suggests that while gross tax receipts rose ₹30,000 crore over the rest of November, the net kitty grew by ₹4,000 crore.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	THURSDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	70,514	1.34
US Dollar	83.30	0.12
Gold	62,950	1.83
Brent oil	76.88	4.31

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2894.05	19.00
Adani Ports	1074.70	11.20
Apollo Hosp	5515.90	89.15
Asian Paints	3241.35	-2.30
Axis Bank	1120.45	5.60
Bajaj Auto	6334.85	18.75
Bajaj Finserv	1730.95	46.40
Bajaj Finance	7474.20	216.20
Bharti Airtel	1005.20	5.30
BPCL	445.70	-1.80
Britannia Ind	4946.65	27.35
Cipla	1204.65	-11.85
Coal India	347.60	2.40
Divis Lab	3683.20	27.20
Dr Reddys Lab	5573.35	-25.30
Eicher Motors	4086.15	53.40
Grasim Ind	2103.90	19.95
HCL Tech	1414.60	45.40
HDFC Bank	1650.15	19.25
HDFC Life	684.55	-13.65
Hero MotoCorp	3883.65	20.35
Hindalco	543.10	10.25
Hind Unilever	2516.35	4.45
ICICI Bank	1033.65	19.75
IndusInd Bank	1551.70	44.80
Infosys	1501.45	52.45
ITC	460.10	4.45
JSW Steel	847.40	-4.00
Kotak Bank	1853.85	27.65
L&T	3433.10	33.30
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5944.30	216.80
M&M	1703.55	37.40
Maruti Suzuki	10353.20	-26.85
NestleIndia	24793.30	-251.10
NTPC	295.40	1.35
ONGC	195.95	2.80
PowerGrid Corp	232.10	-4.85
Reliance Ind	2464.15	30.20
SBI Life	1469.85	3.05
State Bank	623.65	3.80
Sun Pharma	1231.30	-1.80
TataConsumerProduct	950.45	-6.85
Tata Motors	719.75	-0.55
Tata Steel	132.00	0.60
TCS	3667.25	73.70
Tech Mahindra	1264.70	48.60
Titan	3591.40	-10.95
UltraTech Cement	9963.30	224.15
UPL	599.15	-0.20
Wipro	434.40	14.75

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on December 14

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.13	83.45
Euro	90.67	91.03
British Pound	105.30	105.71
Japanese Yen (100)	58.69	58.93
Chinese Yuan	11.65	11.70
Swiss Franc	95.49	95.87
Singapore Dollar	62.48	62.73
Canadian Dollar	61.76	62.00
Malaysian Ringitt	17.79	17.87
Australian Dollar	55.74	55.97

Source:Indian Bank

Essar Global plans to invest ₹56,000 crore in Gujarat

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Essar Global Fund Ltd. said it has signed three Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with the Government of Gujarat for a total investment of ₹56,000 crore ahead of the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024.

The company said it was in a renewed phase of making strategic investments in energy transition, power and port sectors in the State. This initiative aims at creating more than 10,000 job opportunities, it said.

"We are delighted to contribute to the State's economic progress," said Prashant Ruia, Director, Essar Capital.

'Logistics costs drop to 7.8%-8.9% of GDP'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

India's logistics costs had reduced from a range of 8.6% to 9.8% in 2013-14 to 7.8%-8.9% of GDP in 2021-22, as per a report by the National Council for Applied Economic Research (NCAER) commissioned by the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

The estimate, which relied on National Accounts Statistics for data such as the output of transport services, storage and warehousing sectors, dispels earlier estimates that pegged the country's logistics costs as high as 14% of GDP.

"We intend to make this exercise more robust going forward with a primary survey to assess actual time and costs experienced by industry," said Rajesh Kumar Singh, secretary in the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade.

"This range is a ballpark estimate and must not be interpreted as the contribution of logistics to GDP in terms of income and job creation, but as an absolute cost measure used for cross-country comparison," said NCAER professor Poonam Munjal.

PE firm Bain Capital sells $448 mn stake in Axis Bank

Reuters
BENGALURU

Private equity firm Bain Capital sold a stake worth $448 million in Indian private lender Axis Bank in a block trade on Wednesday, according to a term sheet seen by Reuters.

Bain affiliates BC Asia Investments VII, BC Asia Investments III and Integral Investments South Asia IV sold 33.4 million shares, or a 1.1% stake in Axis Bank, at ₹1,119.70 per share, the term sheet showed, without providing a reason for the sale.

The final price was a 1% premium to the floor price when the deal launched and 1% discount to the stock's previous day close.

Vedanta bags $1.25 bn debt refinance, S&P downgrades

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Vedanta Resources Ltd. (VRL), the U.K.-headquartered parent of Vedanta group, said it has secured a $1.25 billion loan from private credit lenders to refinance/repay part of the $3.2 billion debt maturing in 2024 and 2025, but this did not prevent S&P Global from downgrading ratings.

In a statement here, Vedanta Resources said the fundraising will help 'create a long-term sustainable capital structure' and demonstrate continued ability to access global capital markets.

Birla case: Calcutta HC alters order restraining Lodha

Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

A division bench of the Calcutta High Court on Thursday modified an order of a single judge in connection with the almost two-decades long legal battle between the Birla family and the Lodhas. Three years ago, the Court had restrained Harsh Vardhan Lodha from holding any position in the entities of the M.P. Birla Group.

"There cannot be universal or dynamic injunction or direction affecting the future course of action of the companies from the Testamentary Court," the Division Bench of Chief Justice T.S. Sivagnanam and Justice Sabyasachi Bhattacharyya said.

The bench also pointed out that a "testamentary court cannot decide issues of title conclusively; such power lies purely within the domain of civil courts. However, while deciding an application under Section 247 of the Indian Succession Act for appointment of administrator pendente lite, the testamentary court may decide the extent of the estate of the deceased testator/testatrix prima facie."

Priyamvada Devi Birla died on July 3, 2004, leaving behind her will. At the centre of this dispute is the will claimed to be that of Priyamvada Devi Birla, bequeathing her entire ₹5,000-crore estate to her chartered accountant R.S. Lodha after her death in 2004. After Mr. Lodha died in 2008, his son Harsh Vardhan Lodha staked claim to the wealth owned by Birla Corp. and became the chairman of several Group companies.

A three-member committee, Administrators Pendente Lite (APL) of the Estate of Priyamvada Birla (APL Committee), was appointed by the High Court in 2012. On September 18, 2020, Justice Sahidullah Munshi restrained Harsh Vardhan Lodha from holding any office in any of the entities of M.P. Birla group while the suit was pending.

The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd
(A Govt. Of kerala Undertaking) Sankaramangalam, Kollam 691583,
Phone : 0476-2651215 to 217, E-Mail: md@kmml.com

TENDER NOTICE

For more details please visit E-Tendering Portal, https://etenders.kerala.gov.in or www.kmml.com

Sl No	Tender Id	Items
1	2023_KMML_626974_1	For supply of Aluminium Trihydrate-1088 MT
2	2023_KMML_629323_1	For the supply of HDPE Pipe
3	2023_KMML_630428_1	For the supply of Nose Ring for Roaster -1 No
4	2023_KMML_630508_1	For fabrication & supply of Heavy Ends Condenser E215

Chavara 14.12.2023 Sd/- Managing Director for The Kerala Minerals and Metals Ltd

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LIMITED
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in, (Contact Number 9646123323

Tender Inquiry No. PPR- 29/2023 Dated: 12.12.2023
Chief Engineer / PP&R Organization, Shed No. D-3, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender under three-part bid system for banking of power from interstate utilities/traders, Traders having valid Inter State Trading Licence issued by CERC for interstate trading of energy, State Electricity Boards, State Electricity Utilities, States from 1st Jan 2023 to 10th October 2024. For detailed NIT & tender specifications please refer to http://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 12.12.2023 onwards.
Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at http://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C-897/23 76155/12/2500/2023/30636

Government of Punjab
Municipal Corporation Ludhiana
NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERS (World Bank-Goods)
NIT No. 273/SE(TIC), dated 11.12.2023
The department of Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (B&R) invites online double bids for "Modernization of record room by providing and installation of storage compactors at Zone-A, B, C and D Municipal Corporation Ludhiana (RFB No. IN-LMC-355599-GO-RFB)" (2nd time) as per schedule given below:-
Closing date & time: 28.12.2023 up to 02:00 PM
For details log on to: eproc.punjab.gov.in
Note: Detail of works/goods, other terms & conditions & tender documents any corrigendum/addendum to the tender notice shall be published on above website only.
Superintending Engineer (TIC)
NA/12/20766/2023/30579 Municipal Corporation Ludhiana

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
RAILWAY RECRUITMENT CELL, CHENNAI
3rd Floor, No.5, Dr.P.V. Cherian Crescent Road,
(Behind Ethiraj College), Egmore, Chennai - 600008
INDICATIVE NOTICE FOR INVITING TENDER
Tenders are invited for conducting Computer Based Test (CBT) against GDCE Quota recruitments to be initiated by RRC / Chennai.
The detailed Tender Documents including Terms & Conditions, Application Fee, Earnest Money Deposit etc., are available in www.ireps.gov.in
The Last / Date for submission of Tender (only online) is 28.01.2024 at 15.30 hrs Interested bidders are advised to visit www.ireps.gov.in
Chairman / Railway Recruitment Cell / Chennai
Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailway

Appointment of Technical Officers on deputation basis in Finance (Inspection-Technical) Department
As per Notification No.2604428/Admn-C2/51/2023/Fin. Dated, 07/12/2023, applications are invited for empanelment of Technical officers on deputation basis in the Finance (Inspection-Technical) Department, Government of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.
The details are published in the official website (www.finance.kerala.gov.in) of Finance Department.
The last date for receiving the application is 15/01/2024.
Sd/- Vijayasree M.S.
3047/F4/2023/I&PRD Joint Secretary (Finance)

BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED
'A Mini Ratna Company'
(A Subsidiary of Coal India Limited)
NOTICE
All the tenders* issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of BCCL www.bcclweb.in, Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement portal https://eprocure.gov.in. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal https://gem.gov.in.
*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic/Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice
Tender No : Re-E-Tender No 240/2023-24/SE/PHC/CHN, AMRUT - Replacing old and damaged 700mm premo pipe AMRUT 2.0: Replacing old and damaged 700mm primo pipe (pumping main to Karuvelippady pump house) by 700mm DI K9 pipe from Perumanoor pump house to Thevara. Pipeline Work, EMD : Rs. 2,00,000/-, Tender Fee : Rs. 13010, Last Date for Submitting Tender : 26-12-2023, 03:00 pm, Phone : 0484 - 2360645. Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-1832-2023-24 PH Circle, Kochi

ANDHRA PRADESH STATE COUNCIL OF HIGHER EDUCATION
3rd, 4th and 5th Floors, Neeladri Towers, Sri Ram Nagar, 6th Battalion Road, Atmakur Village, Mangalagiri Mandal, GUNTUR-522503, A.P. website: www.apsche.org, Email: secretaryapsche@gmail.com
e-Procurement Notice
RFPNo:APSCHE-CETs-CBT- 2023 Dt.15.12.2023
Tenders are here by invited from reputed companies/agencies/firms "For conduct of Computer Based Test (CBT) of AP Common Entrance Tests (APCETs) by APSCHE" through e-procurement portal https://tender.apeprocurement.gov.in with tender Id No.700717. Tender schedule is available from 15.12.2023 & last date of tender submission is 08.01.2024 by 05.00 PM.
Date:15.12.2023, Mangalagiri Sd/-SECRETARY

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION CHHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR
Executive Engineer (Building & Light)
Address : Municipal Corporation Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Executive Engineer (Building & Light). Head Office : Town Hall Pin 431001. Tel. No. (0240) 2333536-40 Fax No. (0240) 2331213 E-Tender Call AMC (for Help) : Cell No. 9764999592
No/AMC/Ex.Eng/Bld.&Light/122/2023 Date : 13/12/2023

Sr. No	Work Name	Last Date of Tender Submission
1	Regarding appointment of Architect / Project Management Consultant / Green Building Consultant for Construction of Municipal Administration Building at Majnu Hill. (Third Time)	29/12/2023

Note :- 1. For the above stated work is available on website www.mahatenders.gov.in
Sd/-
Executive Engineer (Building & Light)
Municipal Corporation Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Unit-1: Kagithapuram - 639 136, Karur District, Tamilnadu
Ph: 04324-277001 (10 Lines)
Unit-2: Mondipatti - 621 306, Trichy District, Tamilnadu
Ph: 04332-261600
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Due Date
232413005844	Steaming (Non-Coking) Coal in Bulk (Imported) with 4200 GAR of Indonesian origin	28.12.23
232413005870	Procurement of Carrying / Return Idlers under Annual Rate Contract Basis	03.01.24
232413005895	Procurement of DAF Chemicals for De-Inking Plant: a) Flocculant Anionic b) Flocculant Cationic c) Coagulant - Strong Cationic	28.12.23
232423003579	Procurement of Hot Melt Glue for TNPL Unit-II	28.12.23
Email	232413005844 - purchase.fuel@tnpl.co.in 232413005870 - purchase.engg@tnpl.co.in 232413005895 - purchase.rawmatl@tnpl.co.in 232423003579 - purchasepacking.u2@tnpl.co.in	

Corrigendum if any will be issued in TNPL Website and NIC Portal only. Detailed Terms & Conditions are available in tender document at our websites: www.tnpl.com, www.tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app
DIPR / 6657 / Tender / 2023
சோதனை கடந்து சுதந்திரம் அடைந்தோம் சாதனை புரிந்து சரித்திரம் படைப்போம்

SPECIAL MOMENT

Renuka, Shubha and Jemimah make their Test debuts

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India's line-up for the one-off Test against England features three debutants — Jemimah Rodrigues and Renuka Singh Thakur, mainstays in the Indian white ball setup, and Karnataka and Railways all-rounder Shubha Satheesh. Jemimah had her family by her side to celebrate. Shubha and Jemimah both scored fifties.

TACKLING SURPRISES

We stick to our individual strengths: Lauren Bell

EMMANUAL YOGINI

England was left befuddled by the spunk and skill of India's Shubha Satheesh. When asked about how the side prepares when there's little footage available, Lauren Bell said, "We usually stick to our individual strengths and what we're going to do. It doesn't change much based on who the opponent is. I know my best ball is good enough."

DOUBTFUL

Shami not likely to board the flight to South Africa for Test series

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Senior pacer Mohammed Shami, who is recovering from an ankle injury, is racing against time to be fit for the Test series against South Africa, starting at Centurion on December 26. Though Shami was included in the Test squad, the 33-year-old's availability was subject to his recovery after the treatment.

HEALTH ISSUES

Australian cricketer Green reveals chronic kidney disease

FILE PHOTO : VIJAY SONEJI

Cameron Green revealed that he suffers from a chronic kidney disease and that he was not expected to live past the age of 12. "My parents got told when I was born I had a chronic kidney disease," he said. "With chronic kidney disease there's five stages and fortunately, I'm stage two, but if you don't look after them, it easily goes back down."

India gets off to a flying start as batters post 410/7 on day one

India's tactical decision to bring in debutant Shubha gives the side four left-handers and the luxury of consistently fielding a left-right combination in the middle, which nullified anything England could do with the early bounce on offer

ENGLAND IN INDIA

Lavanya L
NAVI MUMBAI

Clean slates are a blessing. Ask Shubha Satheesh. The Karnataka batter, with no prior international experience, was the cynosure of all eyes with her classical batting and bravado, helping India to 410/7 on the opening day of the one-off Test against England at the D.Y. Patil Stadium here on Thursday.

While Shafali Verma looked the more nervy of the two, Smriti Mandhana fell first, to a delivery from Lauren Bell that left her with no room and rocked back to rearrange the stumps. Shafali fell soon after, clean bowled by Kate Cross whose top-of-off line breached Shafali's defence and sent the off stump cartwheeling.

Shubha, who made a solid 76-ball 69, got off the mark in her second delivery in international cricket, driving Bell to the boundary with a textbook cover drive for the ages. She teamed up with Jemimah Rodrigues, who also made her Test debut in this fixture, to stitch a valuable 115-run stand in 146 balls for the third wicket.

In the 11th over, she got down on one knee to drive a fuller ball past bowler Kate Cross, holding the pose for the photographers to get the perfect shot.

She got to her maiden half century off the same bowler with a similar full-faced drive down the ground. Jemimah, who registered a maiden fifty herself, kept the runs trickling in at a healthy rate, with impeccable timing and placement especially through the offside. Shubha fell to Sophie Ecclestone after misjudging the bounce on a shorter delivery. Bell took out Jemimah soon after.

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Yastika Bhatia steadied the ship with a 116-run stand for the fifth wicket.

A freak run out saw Harmanpreet's bat seemingly getting stuck on the pitch as she tried to ground it to safety, with her innings ending at 49. Yastika was dropped on 15 when Bell squandered a sitter after getting both hands to it. She went on to score an 88-ball 66.

Sneh Rana and Deepti Sharma stitched India's third century stand for the day.

Knight's decision to take the new ball did not help as Deepti romped to her third Test fifty in three matches. Sneh's defiant watch ended after she was bowled by Nat Sciver-Brunt in the dying minutes of the day.

England was porous on the field. The pitch initially aided seam movement but eased out after lunch against all expectations. That said, India's tactical decision to bring in Shubha gave the side four left handers and the luxury of consistently fielding a left-right combination in the middle, which nullified anything Ecclestone in particular could do with the early bounce on offer.

In 2014, the last home Test India played, the side batted just once, amassed a 400 score and did not need to pad up again. Harmanpreet and Co. won't mind an encore.

Cashing in: Yastika, who was dropped on 15 by Bell, went on to score an 88-ball 66. EMMANUAL YOGINI

SCOREBOARD

India — 1st innings: Smriti Mandhana b Bell 17 *(12b, 3x4)*, Shafali Verma b Cross 19 *(30b, 4x4)*, Shubha Satheesh c Sciver-Brunt b Ecclestone 69 *(76b, 13x4)*, Jemimah Rodrigues b Bell 68 *(99b, 11x4)*, Harmanpreet Kaur run out 49 *(81b, 6x4)*, Yastika Bhatia c Bell b Dean 66 *(88b, 10x4, 1x6)*, Deepti Sharma (batting) 60 *(95b, 9x4, 1x6)*, Sneh Rana b Sciver-Brunt 30 *(73b, 5x4)*, Pooja Vastrakar (batting) 4 *(12b, 1x4)*; Extras (b-19, lb-7, nb-2): 28; Total (for seven wkts. in 94 overs): 410.

Fall of wickets: 1-25 (Smriti, 5.1 overs), 2-47 (Shafali, 8.4), 3-162 (Shubha, 32.6), 4-190 (Jemimah, 37.6), 5-306 (Harmanpreet, 62.1), 6-313 (Yastika, 66.2), 7-405 (Sneh, 90.5).

England bowling: Cross 14-0-64-1, Bell 15-1-64-2, Sciver-Brunt 11-4-25-1, Filer 15-1-84-0, Dean 17-1-62-1, Ecclestone 22-4-85-1.

Toss: India.

So much happening all at once: Shubha

What a start! Debutant Shubha showcased her potential with an impressive knock. EMMANUAL YOGINI

Lavanya L
NAVI MUMBAI

In a COVID-delayed 2020-21 domestic season, Shubha Satheesh came out to bat for Karnataka against Tamil Nadu in a one-day fixture. She began her innings with a glorious drive through the off-side. A couple of years later, she would replicate that shot and that picture of poise and power for the Indian national team, and more importantly, in Test whites.

"I love all kind of drives. They are my favourite shots," Shubha said about her innings against England.

The fortunate one

"I am a fortunate cricketer because I didn't set out to become one. I got opportunities and went with them. It's an amazing feeling and so much is happening all at once."

Shubha hails from Mysore and was only three years into playing cricket when the Test against South Africa happened in her city. She played a number of team sports, anything her school had a team in, and finally settled with cricket as the sport to pursue professionally.

"She impressed me with her energy on the field. She takes immense pride in working on herself to get better," former TN coach Aarti Sankaran told *The Hindu*. "In 2018, I saw her when Tamil Nadu played Karnataka and she scored a blistering hundred. Even though she was an opponent then, it was hard not to appreciate what was on display," Aarti said.

Shubha amassed 1275 List A runs for Karnataka in 50 innings, including 10 fifties, and 653 runs in T20s with three fifties in the mix.

The 24-year-old impressed the selectors and the team's think-tank when India had practice games among squads for this series in Bengaluru. In that game, Shubha made 99.

Diamantakos' strike helps Blasters pip Punjab FC

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Kerala Blasters roared back to life after a goalless first half to bag all three points against Punjab FC in an Indian Super League contest at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium on Thursday.

The visitor, mirroring its season's trend of dominant second halves, scored six minutes into the second half through a Dimitrios Diamantakos penalty after Aimen was brought down in the box.

Though Kerala started brightly, it couldn't translate its domination into goals. Punjab, on the other hand, grew into the game and threatened through Luka Majcen and Nikhil Pradhan; however, their finishing lacked precision.

The second period saw a shift in momentum as Blasters' persistence paid off. Diamantakos converted from the spot for his fifth goal of the season, injecting the much-needed spark into Kerala's play. Blasters attacked in waves thereafter.

Vibin's free-kick rattled the woodwork, Lescovic headed against the post and Kotal's shot was saved by Punjab custodian Kiran Chemjong.

With Adrian Luna rumoured to be out for the rest of the season, it was a statement win for Blasters.

The result: Punjab FC 0 lost to Kerala Blasters 1 (Diamantakos 51).

After Suryakumar's sizzling show, birthday boy Kuldeep takes over

On the attack: Suryakumar's 55-ball century had seven fours and eight sixes. GETTY IMAGES

INDIA IN SA

Press Trust of India
JOHANNESBURG

Captain Suryakumar Yadav produced a hundred of rare brilliance and Kuldeep Yadav weaved his magic as India registered a comprehensive 106-run series-levelling win over South Africa in the third and final T20I here on Thursday.

Suryakumar's 100 off 56 balls which contained seven fours and eight sixes and Yashasvi Jaiswal's fluent 60 off 41 balls carried India to 201 for seven after the visitors were asked to bat first.

The Indian bowlers, especially left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep (five for 17), who turned 29 on Thursday, hit the right areas to bundle out the hosts for 95 in 13.5 overs.

Earlier, the 33-year-old India skipper exploited the opportunity to bat on a bone-dry surface by smashing his fourth T20I century, joining teammate Rohit Sharma and Australian Glenn Maxwell as batters with four three-figure scores in the shortest format.

Suryakumar and Jaiswal added 112 in an entertaining fourth-wicket alliance and trusted the true nature of the Wanderers pitch to unfurl shots of high quality.

Their partnership also allowed India to wriggle out of a bit of a tight spot after it had lost Shubman Gill (8) and Tilak Varma (0) off successive balls in the third over to left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj. India was 29 for two at that stage.

The Suryakumar-Jaiswal association was not all about going after the bowlers. The two made a cautious start, adding 33 in the final four overs of the PowerPlay and 25 more in the overs between seven and 10. Once past the 10-over mark, the batters, especially Suryakumar, shifted into overdrive as 114 came in the final 10 overs.

Pacer Andile Phehlukwayo bore the brunt of Suryakumar's attack, getting hammered for 22 in the 13th over (6, 4, 6, 6). Suryakumar took a two off Lizaad Williams' bowling to reach his 100 off 55 balls.

In the second half of the match, the pitch offered some assistance to the spinners much to the delight of Jadeja and Kuldeep. Birthday boy Kuldeep's delivery that turned in from outside off-stump rattled Donovan Ferreira's stumps. Kuldeep hastened the end, taking three wickets in an over. He castled David Miller to finish with five for 17, his best figures in T20Is.

India's 106-run win was its biggest in terms of runs against South Africa in the T20 format and couldn't have been timed better as it was 0-1 down in the three-match series.

Wrecker-in-chief: Kuldeep bamboozled the South African batters to finish with a five-for. AFP

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Yashasvi Jaiswal c Hendricks b Shamsi 60 *(41b, 6x4, 3x6)*, Shubman Gill lbw b Maharaj 8 *(6b, 2x4)*, Tilak Varma c Markram b Maharaj 0 *(1b)*, Suryakumar Yadav c Breetzke b Williams 100 *(56b, 7x4, 8x6)*, Rinku Singh c sub (Stubbs) b Burger 14 *(10b, 1x6)*, Jitesh Sharma hit wicket b Williams 4 *(4b, 1x4)*, Ravindra Jadeja run out 4 *(2b, 1x4)*, Arshdeep Singh (not out) 0 *(0b)*, Mohammed Siraj (not out) 2 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-4, w-4, nb-1): 9; Total (for seven wkts. in 20 overs): 201.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-29 (Gill, 2.2 overs), 2-29 (Tilak, 2.3), 3-141 (Jaiswal, 13.6), 4-188 (Rinku, 18.3), 5-194 (Suryakumar, 19.2), 6-199 (Jadeja, 19.4), 7-199 (Jitesh, 19.5).

SOUTH AFRICA BOWLING

Burger 4-0-39-1, Markram 1-0-15-0, Maharaj 4-0-26-2, Williams 4-0-46-2, Phehlukwayo 3-0-33-0, Shamsi 4-0-38-1.

SOUTH AFRICA

Reeza Hendricks run out 8 *(13b, 1x4)*, Matthew Breetzke b Mukesh 4 *(3b, 1x4)*, Aiden Markram c Jaiswal b Jadeja 25 *(14b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Heinrich Klaasen c Rinku b Arshdeep 5 *(5b, 1x4)*, David Miller b Kuldeep 35 *(25b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Donovan Ferreira b Kuldeep 12 *(11b, 1x6)*, Andile Phehlukwayo c & b Jadeja 0 *(3b)*, Keshav Maharaj b Kuldeep 1 *(3b)*, Nandre Burger lbw b Kuldeep 1 *(3b)*, Lizaad Williams lbw b Kuldeep 0 *(2b)*, Tabraiz Shamsi (not out) 1 *(1b)*; Extras (lb-2, w-1): 3; Total (in 13.5 overs): 95.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-4 (Breetzke, 1.3), 2-23 (Hendricks, 3.2), 3-42 (Klaasen, 5.4), 4-42 (Markram, 6.1), 5-75 (Ferreira, 9.6), 6-82 (Phehlukwayo, 10.6), 7-89 (Maharaj, 11.6), 8-94 (Burger, 13.1), 9-94 (Williams, 13.3).

INDIA BOWLING

Siraj 3-1-13-0, Mukesh 2-0-21-1, Arshdeep 2-0-13-1, Jadeja 3-0-25-2, Tilak 1-0-4-0, Kuldeep 2.5-0-17-5.

Toss: South Africa; **PoM:** Suryakumar.

India won by 106 runs to share the honours 1-1 in three-match series.

INBRIEF

Antim Panghal named UWW Rising Star of the Year

Two-time World under-20 champion and senior Worlds bronze medallist Antim Panghal (53kg) has been named United World Wrestling (UWW) Rising Star of the Year 2023 in women's section. Antim won a silver in her senior Asian championships debut, defended her U-20 World title and then won bronze at the World championships.

India beats Nepal, wins women's series for blind

Sushma Patel scored a breezy 37-ball 45 as India defeated Nepal by seven wickets to take an unassailable 3-1 lead in the five-match T20 women's bilateral cricket series for the blind in Mumbai on Thursday. Put in to bat, Nepal scored 165 for six in 20 overs with skipper Binta Pun making 69. India chased down the target in the 19th over for the loss of three wickets.

SLC appoints Jayasuriya as consultant for one year

Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) on Thursday appointed former opener Sanath Jayasuriya as the full-time cricket consultant for one year to ensure all-round development of the sport in the country. The appointment of Jayasuriya follows the reconstitution of the national selection panel on Wednesday under new lead selector and former opener Upul Tharanga.

India strikes it rich at Asian youth rapid chess

India won nine medals at the Asian youth rapid chess championship at Al Ain, UAE. Seven of those medals were won by girls, who made it a 1-2-3 for India in the under-8 category.

India's medal winners: Open: Under-8: Gold: Shayan Noushad Ibrahim; **Silver:** Kapil Aarit. **Girls: Under-18: Gold:** Bhagyashree Patil. **Under-16: Bronze:** Cera Dagariya. **Under-14: Gold:** Saparya Ghosh; **Silver:** Sherali Pattnaik. **Under-8: Gold:** A.S. Sharvaanica; **Silver:** Kiyana Parihar; **Bronze:** Divi Bijesh.

Three ATP Challenger 100 events in India early next year

Chennai, Bengaluru and Pune will host back to back ATP Challenger 100 tennis tournaments early next year. The Chennai Open will be held from February 5 to 11, followed by Bengaluru Open (Feb. 12 to 18) and Pune Challenger (Feb. 19 to 25). India is scheduled to play its Davis Cup World Group I Playoff tie away to Pakistan just ahead of the Chennai Challenger, with the turnaround time between the two events expected to be 24 to 48 hours.

Warriors' Green suspended 'indefinitely' over Nurkic clash

Golden State Warriors star Draymond Green will be "suspended indefinitely" following his clash with Phoenix player Jusuf Nurkic that saw him ejected for the third time this season, the NBA said on Wednesday.

LIVE TELECAST

Australia vs Pakistan: 1st Test, day 2, Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 7.50 a.m.

India Women vs England Women: Only Test, day 2, Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 9.30 a.m.

Zimbabwe vs Ireland: 2nd ODI, FanCode, 12.45 p.m.

TPL: Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 4 p.m. onwards

PKL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m. onwards

ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 8 p,m.

Bundesliga: Sony Sports Ten 1 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12 a.m. (Saturday)

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 1.15 a.m. (Saturday)

Premier League: SS Select 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 1.30 a.m. (Saturday)

Clinical Germany proves too good for India

JR. HOCKEY WC

Press Trust of India
KUALA LUMPUR

Penalty corner woes continued to haunt India as it failed to convert even once from 12 shots during the 1-4 loss to a clinical Germany in the semifinals of the junior men's hockey World Cup here on Thursday.

Six-time champion Germany, on the other hand, earned just two penalty corners and converted both.

Ben Hasbach scored in the eighth and 30th minutes to give Germany a 2-1 lead at half-time. Sudeep Chirmako got the lone goal for India in the 11th minute.

Germany consolidated its lead with a clinical penalty corner conversion by Glander Paul (41st), while Florian Sperling's 58th minute field strike completed the formalities.

It will face France in the summit clash while India will play Spain for the bronze medal on Saturday.

PSG squeezes through, Milan out despite beating Newcastle

Royal Antwerp claims a famous win over Barcelona; Manchester City makes it six out of six; Atletico Madrid tops its group; Porto through at the expense of Shakhtar Donetsk

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Paris Saint-Germain and Porto qualified for the Champions League last 16 on Wednesday as Newcastle bowed out of Europe after losing 2-1 at home to AC Milan.

PSG drew 1-1 away to Group F winner Borussia Dortmund to go through as runner-up after Milan came from behind to beat Newcastle at St James' Park and eliminate Eddie Howe's side.

Newcastle needed to win and for PSG to drop points to keep its first Champions League campaign in 20 years alive.

Porto made the last 16 at the expense of Shakhtar Donetsk after a 5-3 win over the Ukrainians.

Royal Antwerp claimed a famous 3-2 win over Barcelona as George Ilenikhena netted a stoppage-time winner.

Lifeline goal: Zaire-Emery, jersey no. 33, saves PSG's blushes with this leveller. AFP

Manchester City became just the second English club to win all six Champions League group stage games with a 3-2 victory at Red Star Belgrade.

Atletico sealed first place in Group E as Antoine Griezmann and Samuel Lino struck in a 2-0 victory over Lazio.

The results: Group E: Atletico Madrid 2 (Griezmann 6, Lino 51) bt Lazio 0; Celtic 2 (Palma 33-pen, Lagerbielke 90+1) bt Feyenoord 1 (Minteh 82).

Group F: Borussia Dortmund 1 (Adeyemi 51) drew with PSG 1 (Zaire-Emery 56); Newcastle 1 (Joelinton 33) lost to AC Milan 2 (Pulisic 59, Chukwueze 84).

Group G: Red Star Belgrade 2 (Hwang 76, Katai 90+1) lost to Manchester City 3 (Hamilton 19, Bobb 62, Phillips 85-pen); RB Leipzig 2 (Sesko 51, Forsberg 56) bt Young Boys 1 (Colley 53).

Group H: Porto 5 (Galeno 9, 43, Taremi 62, Pepe 75, Conceicao 82) bt Shakhtar Donetsk 3 (Sikan 29, Eustaquio 72-og, Eguinaldo 88); Royal Antwerp 3 (Vermeeren 2, Janssen 56, Ilenikhena 90+2) bt Barcelona 2 (Torres 35, Guiu 90+1).

Shreyas.

Shreyas to return as KKR captain for IPL 2024

Sports Bureau
KOLKATA

Shreyas Iyer will return to the Kolkata Knight Riders side as its captain for the upcoming season of the Indian Premier League, the franchise announced on Thursday.

"It was indeed unfortunate that Shreyas missed IPL 2023 due to injury. We are delighted that he's back and at the helm as captain. The way he has worked hard to recover from his injury and the form he has displayed is a testament to his character," said KKR CEO Venky Mysore.

Nitish Rana, who led the side in Shreyas' absence, will be the vice-captain.

Anupama finds a way past Amee, wins maiden National crown

CUE SPORTS

Sports Bureau
CHENNAI

Anupama Ramachandran was third time lucky as she got the better of defending champion Amee Kamani 3-2 (41-102, 55-100, 101-60, 101-82, 101-5) in the women's billiards final of the 90th National billiards & snooker championships here on Thursday.

Tamil Nadu's Anupama, who had lost to Madhya Pradesh's Amee in the 6-Red snooker and 15-Red snooker finals, fought back from 0-2 down and took the final three frames to clinch her first senior National crown.

"It feels special to win my first senior National title, and to do it in front of my family, friends and the Tamil Nadu Billiards & Snooker Association community is more special," said Anupama.

Unforgettable day: Anupama clinched her first senior billiards title in front of home fans. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The results: Women's billiards: Final: Anupama Ramachandran (TN) bt Amee Kamani (MP 3-2 (41-102, 55-100, 101-60, 101-82, 101-5); **Semifinals:** Amee bt Ishika Shah (MP) 3-0 (76-13, 76-49, 75-16); Anupama bt Arantxa Sanchis (Mah) 3-0 (75-37, 75-14, 75-0); **Quarterfinals:** Arantxa bt R. Umadevi (Kar) 2-0; Amee bt Suchitra (Kar) 2-0; Ishika bt Keerthana Pandian (Kar) 2-1; Anupama bt Snenthra Babu (TN) 2-0.

Women's 15-Red snooker: Final: Amee bt Anupama 4-1 (96-30, 25-66, 76-38, 89-48, 72-12); **Third place:** Suniti Damani (WB) bt Keerthana 2-1.

Bengal Wizards soars to the top in the Tennis Premier League

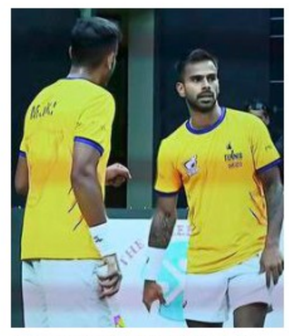
Sports Bureau
PUNE

Anirudh Chandrasekar and Maria Timofeeva made the difference as they powered Bengal Wizards to a 47-33 victory over Pune Jaguars in the fifth edition of the Tennis Premier League at the Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex here on Thursday.

Aniurdh won his mixed doubles with Timofeeva 14-6 against Diana Marcinkevica and Rithvik Bollipalli and put the icing on the cake, by winning the doubles 11-9 with Sriram Balaji over Rithvik and Lukas Rosol.

Timofeeva had earlier given a strong start for Bengal by beating Marcinkevica 13-7 in the opening rubber, and Sriram stayed close to Rosol.

After three matches in the league, Bengal was comfortably on top with 129 points and in a strong position in the race for the semifinals with two more league matches to be played.



Mukund and Nagal of Gujarat Panthers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Sumit Nagal and Mukund Sasikumar, the top two players in the country, pulled their weight, especially in the doubles, to help Gujarat Panthers score a 43-37 win over Punjab Patriots. Sumit was particularly severe in beating Digvijay Pratap Singh 13-7. Both teams were, however, close to each other at 123 and 121 points respectively.

The results: Bengal Wizards bt Pune Jaguars 47-33 (Maria Timofeeva bt Diana Marcinkevica 13-7; Sriram Balaji lost to Lukas Rosol 9-11; Maria & Anirudh Chandrasekar bt Marcinkevica & Rithvik Bollipalli 14-6; Sriram & Anirudh bt Rithvik & Rosol 11-9). **Gujarat Panthers bt Punjab Patriots 43-37** (Ekerina Yashina tied Conny Perrin 10-10; Sumit Nagal bt Digvijay Pratap Singh 13-7; Yashina & Mukund Sasikumar lost to Perrin & Arjun Kadhe 9-11; Nagal & Mukund bt Khade & Digvijay 11-9). **Mumbai Leon Army bt Hyderabad Strikers 41-39** (Sowjanya Bavisetti lost to Ellen Perez 9-11; Ernests Gulbis bt Niki Poonacha 11-9; Sowjanya& Vijay Sundar Prashanth tied Perez & Saketh Myneni 10-10; Gulbis & Vijay Sundar bt Poonacha & Myneni 11-9).

du Plessis and Valli fifties frustrate the visitors on final day

INDIA-A IN SA

Press Trust of India
POTCHEFSTROOM

Unbeaten fifties from opener Yaseen Valli and Jean du Plessis helped South Africa-A earn a draw against India-A on the fourth and final day of the first 'Test' here on Thursday.

South Africa-A made 152 for two in 42 overs in its second innings before both the sides agreed to shake hands.

Earlier, India-A was all out for 417.

For South Africa, Jones took four wickets while fellow pacer Siya Plaatjie grabbed three.

The second 'Test' will begin at Benoni on December 26.

The scores: South Africa-A 319 in 98.1 overs and 152/2 in 42 overs (Yaseen Valli 72 n.o., Jean du Plessis 50 n.o.) drew with India-A 417 in 86.5 overs (Pradosh Ranjan Paul 163, Shardul Thakur 76, Sarfaraz Khan 68, Evan Jones 4/100, Siya Plaatjie 3/65).

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Zaragoza.
FILE PHOTO: K. MURALI KUMAR

Zaragoza named head coach of Bengaluru FC

Gerard Zaragoza has been appointed as the head coach of Bengaluru FC, the club announced on Thursday.

The Spaniard will serve as the new head coach until the end of the 2024-25 season.

Zaragoza takes over from Englishman Simon Grayson, who left the club following a 0-4 defeat to Mumbai City FC last Friday.

Zaragoza, 41, was part of BFC's ISL-winning squad of 2018-19 as assistant coach to Carles Cuadrat. Zaragoza had stints at Greek side Panserraikos and, most recently, Emirati UAE Pro League side Khor Fakkan Club, where he was named 'Manager of the Week' on two occasions.

Argentinian Sebastian Vega, who was part of Zaragoza's backroom staff at Khor Fakkan, Al-Ahli and Panserraikos, has been named assistant coach.

Vishist's six-for highlights Visweswarapuram (1)'s entry into the final

P.J. Vishist (6/25) helped Visweswarapuram (1) defeat Bangalore SC in the KSCA under-14 inter-club cricket semifinal.

The scores:

Semifinals: Bangalore SC 63 in 22.3 overs (P.J. Vishist 6/25) lost to Visweswarapuram (1) 64/4 in 14 overs (Nalin Goyal 27 n.o., Tanshh Krishna 3/25).

Swastic Union (2) 354/5 in 50 overs (Dhruv Akki 37, Arsh 52, R. Nithin 66, J. Sukruth 125, Harish Bam 39) bt Bangalore United (1) 265/7 in 50 overs (Aditya Singh 53, Yash Rajanna 25, Aaron Minj 88, Rohan Vyas 3/43).

Harmeet and Archana triumph

TABLE TENNIS

Rakesh Rao
PANCHKULA

Less than three weeks after winning the titles at Vadodara, Harmeet Desai and Archana Kamath added a second one for the season in the National ranking table tennis tournament here on Thursday.

Harmeet overcame a spell of complacency before regaining control for a 13-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-6 victory over Manush Shah.

Top seed Archana was always in control against second seed Ayhika Mukherjee and won 11-8, 11-6, 11-8, 7-11, 11-8.

Other results:

Men: Semifinals: Manush bt Payas Jain 7-11, 11-6, 13-11, 14-12, 12-10; Harmeet bt P.B. Abhinand 11-5, 11-4, 11-3, 11-7.

Women: Semifinals: Archana bt Yashini Sivashankar 11-9, 11-4, 11-6, 11-6; Ayhika bt Sayali Wani 11-4, 11-8, 11-8, 11-9.

Under-19 (finals): Boys: Jash Modi bt Ankur Bhattacharjee 7-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-8, 11-8, 5-0, concd.;

Girls: Pritha Vartikar bt Suhana Saini 11-8, 11-13, 12-10, 6-11, 11-9, 11-5.

Narwal clinches 10m air pistol SH1 gold

Strong show: Kasthuri, who won the 67kg powerlifting event, is congratulated by Paralympic Committee president Deepa.

PARA GAMES

Sports Bureau
NEW DELHI

Tokyo Olympics champion Manish Narwal claimed gold in the 10m air pistol SH1 category on day five of the Khelo India Para Games here on Thursday, scoring 240.2 points to finish on top.

In table tennis, Paralympics and Para Asiad medallist Bhavina Patel won 3-0 over Gujarat statemate Shamim Chawda in the Class 4 category.

The results: Table Tennis: Men: Class 8: Gajanan Parmar bt Shashidhar Kulkarni 3-2; Amresh Kumar Singh bt Raju 3-0; Tushar Nagar bt Kunal Arora 3-0; Ajay G.V. bt Swapnil Shelke 3-0.

Class 9: Pritam Saha bt Dattaprasad Chougule 3-0; Chetan Salgaonkar bt Brijendra Singh 3-0; Y. Nithish bt Ranjit Singh Gujjar 3-0; Ravinder Yadav bt Ramakrishnaiah Srinivas 3-1.

Shooting: Mixed: 10m air rifle prone SH1: Deepak Saini (250.2); Vijay Kumar (249.3); Mona Agarwal (228.8); **SH2:** Ram Pal (625.6); Vijay Singh Kuntal (625.5); Satya Janardhana Sridhar Rayala (621.4).

Men 10m air pistol SH1: Manish Narwal (240.2), Rudransh Khandelwal (236.8), Vaibhavraje Bapu Randive (211.6).

Powerlifting: 67kg: Kasthuri Rajamani (100kg); Parul Gohil (64kg); Sumandeep (57kg); **73kg:** Reshma Mogil (72kg); Sahista (58kg); Maya (57kg); **80kg:** Gursewak Singh (171kg); Abdul Salam (155kg); Honey Dabas (152kg); **88kg:** Sandesha B.G. (171kg); Jagmohan (145kg); Divyesh Ladani (140kg).

Warner hits ton as Aussies takes control

The opener notches up his 26th century in Tests and adds 126 runs for the opening stand with Khawaja as the hosts reach 346 for five at stumps

Flying high! Smith applauds as Warner celebrates in his inimitable style. AFP

PAKISTAN IN AUS

Reuters
PERTH

Australia's opener David Warner brushed aside any doubts about his Test match pedigree with a brutal 164-run assault on Pakistan's bowlers as the host glided to 346 for five in 84 overs at stumps on day one of the series opener here on Thursday.

The 37-year-old, who intends to retire from Tests after the third and final game in Sydney, combined with Usman Khawaja (41) in a 126-run opening stand to get the host off to a strong start after winning the toss.

A delightful upper cut for four in the 43rd over saw Warner bring up a breezy 125-ball hundred, his 26th in Tests, prompting a trademark celebratory leap and a cheeky 'shush' towards the media box.

"It's my job to come out here and score runs, that was from the get-go to put pressure on the Pakistani bowlers," said Warner, who had averaged only 32 in Tests since the start of 2020.

Quick start

The World Test champion got off to a flyer, with spearhead quick Shaheen Afridi's 14-run opening over foreshadowing a punishing session for the visitors.

Khawaja, donning a black armband after International Cricket Council rules prohibited him from wearing shoes showing messages of solidarity with Gaza Palestinians, was first to fall after lunch, caught behind by Sarfaraz Ahmed off Afridi.

Departing soon after was Marnus Labuschagne (16), trapped lbw by medium-pacer Faheem Ashraf (1-65), leading Warner to dial back his attacking approach.

Warner rode his luck to survive a dropped catch and a mis-stumping to spinner Agha Salman, cashing in on anything in his zone to nail 16 boundaries and four sixes in 211 balls before miscuing debutant quick Aamer Jamal to backward square.

The scores: Australia 346/5 in 84 overs (Warner 164, Khawaja 41, Head 40) vs. Pakistan.
Toss: Australia.

Hooda steps up to the plate, powers Rajasthan to the title round with a brilliant hundred

HAZARE TROPHY

Dhruva Prasad
RAJKOT

Skipper Deepak Hooda's (180, 128b, 19x4, 5x6) fire and Karan Lamba's (73 n.o., 112b, 7x4) ice combined to snuff out Karnataka's challenge as Rajasthan booked its first Vijay Hazare Trophy final berth since 2006-07 with a six-wicket win at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium here on Thursday.

Reduced to 23 for three while chasing 283, Hooda and Lamba's 255-run partnership ensured the margin of victory belied Rajasthan's initial struggles.

Hooda used his feet with expertise, stepping out and getting in line of the ball by shuffling across to throw the bowlers off their lengths.

After getting to a 54-ball fifty by pulling J. Suchith's long hop for a six, Hooda launched K. Gowtham for a six over long-on and then cut through covers off the backfoot for a four in the same over.

Hooda's hundred came off 85 balls in an over where he toyed with Manoj Bhandage, shuffling across to flick one off his pads before giving the medium-pacer the charge to turn a good length ball into a half-volley.

Rotating the strike

Lamba, meanwhile, rotated the strike and didn't refrain from slashing when offered room outside off.

Hooda fell when he pulled a short one from Gowtham into the hands of deep square-leg with Rajasthan five runs adrift of victory, but Karnataka's fate was sealed by then.

Earlier, after workhorses R. Samarth and Mayank Agarwal failed to fire, Abhinav Manohar (91, 80b, 10x4, 3x6) and Bhandage (63, 39b, 3x4, 5x6) spared the four-time champion the blushes with a 95-run partnership off 68 balls.

Standing tall: Hooda's epic knock of 180 off just 128 balls knocked the stuffing out of Karnataka. VIJAY SONEJI

Manohar didn't curb his natural instincts despite Karnataka stuttering at 87 for four. He struck with vehemence and the sound of bat on ball resonated across the empty stands like the knell for Rajasthan.

He was particularly severe on Khaleel Ahmed and Rahul Chahar, who missed their lengths after bowling tight opening spells.

Manohar was the aggressor in an 89-run alliance with Manish Pandey for the fifth wicket that marked a shift in momentum. The stocky left-hander made an impression off the second ball he faced – slog sweeping Kukna Ajay Singh for a six. He picked the lengths early, pulling the short stuff from both spinners and pacers in front of square and down the ground.

Bhandage got to his fifty off just 30 balls and eclipsed Manohar, who managed only 25 off 26 balls in the last 10 overs, which proved costly eventually.

The scores: Karnataka 282/8 in 50 overs (Abhinav Manohar 91, Manoj Bhandage 63) lost to Rajasthan 283/4 in 43.4 overs (Deepak Hooda 180, Karan Lamba 73 n.o.).

Indrajith the brave warrior batted despite a freak injury

Dhruva Prasad
RAJKOT

Though Tamil Nadu lost to Haryana by 63 runs in the Vijay Hazare Trophy semi-final at the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium here on Wednesday, its 29-year-old workhorse B. Indrajith showed exemplary grit and determination during his 71-ball 64.

Indrajith batted with a bandage plastered across his mouth after suffering a freak injury during the innings break.

"Thank you all for your concern and wishes. Slipped and fell very badly when I stepped out of the ice bath mid-innings. Fell face on in the bathroom and was shaken up quite a bit. Was bleeding with a deep cut on the upper lip and in the inside of the lip.

"Managed to bat somehow but gutted to not cross the finish line for the team. Just went to the hospital and got my stitches done," he posted on Instagram on Thursdsay.

Team-man: Indrajith batted with a bandaged plastered across his mouth in the semifinal against Haryana. VIJAY SONEJI

Difficult chase

After Tamil Nadu's top-order failed, Indrajith walked out to bat with three wickets down for 54 runs in a chase of 294.

He put on a crucial 58-run partnership with skipper Dinesh Karthik for the fifth wicket that gave the TN dugout some hope.

Classical method

Indrajith largely stuck to his classical method, but with wickets falling at the other end and the asking rate mounting, he had to resort to cheeky shots towards the end.

Indrajith had scored an unbeaten ton against Mumbai in the quarterfinal and finished as Tamil Nadu's highest scorer in the tournament, with 330 runs in eight innings.

Government of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PRINTING, STATIONERY & PUBLICATIONS
Government Central Press, R.V. College Post, 8th Mile, Mysuru Road, Bengaluru-560 059.
No.: DPS24PUR(B) 2023-24/MF&MG Date: 13.12.2023
BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION (through e-Procurement)
Online tenders are invited for the **supply of M.F. Boards & M.G. Kraft under rate contract.** Estimated toal value of the tender is about **Rs. 238.00 lakhs** & overall total EMD is **Rs. 11.90 lakhs.** Pre-bid meeting shall be on **21.12.2023 at 11.30 a.m.** and last date for submission of tender **12.01.2024, 17.30 hrs.** For details please visit website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For any futher clarifications the above office may be contacted.
DIPR/DD-C.P/2557/KSMCA/2023-24 **Sd/- Director**

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru-560 020
Tender No. BDA/2023-24/EL/WORK_INDENT3/398 Date: 14.12.2023
INVITATION FOR SHORT-TERM TENDERS
BDA invites short-term tenders for **Annual Maintenance of electrical accessories, Air conditioners, Bore wells, DG Sets at BDA Head Office Blocks (A, B, C, D & E), BDA Shopping Complexes and BDA Quarters, Bengaluru for the year of 2023-24.**
Calendar of Events : (1) Date of Downloading the tender document: **15.12.2023. (2)** Last date and time for receipt of tenders in e-portal: **30.12.2023, 16.00 hrs. (3)** Date and time for opening of Technical Bids: **After 02.01.2024, 17.00 hrs. (4)** Date & time of opening of Financial Bids: **As per e-portal publication.**
For more details please refer e-procurement portal website:
https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in or contact at office of the Executive Engineer (Elec.), BDA, T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru. Contact No.: +91 9845630164. For queries contact e-mail ID: **eeelec.bda@gmail.com**
Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele.), Electrical Division, BDA, Bengaluru
BDA/PRO/TN/04/2023-24

INDUSIND BANK LTD.
1-10-72, 3rd floor, Ashoka Janardhana Chambers, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016, Ph: (040) 40916229
E-AUCTION SALE PROCLAMATION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
Sale of immovable asset under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act).
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described secured asset is mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken on by the Authorised Officer of M/s. IndusInd Bank Ltd. (the secured creditor). The Property will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 29/12/2023** for recovery of **Rs.1,12,45,239/- (Rupees One Crore Twelve Lakhs Forty Five Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Nine Only) With further interest there onat the contractual rate and cost, expenses. as on 30.11.2023, Loan Ac. No.650014083274** with further interest at the contractual rate and costs, charges and expenses due to IndusInd Bank Ltd., from the **borrower M/s. Safa Retail, Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors : 1) Mr. Akhil Ahmed, 2) Mrs. Batula Kouser**
Description of Immovable properties : All the piece and parcel of the property bearing site No.136, formed in converted Sy No.46, Old Katha No.410, Assessment No. 304, New V.P Katha No.229, as per BBMP records Katha No. 833, situated at Meenakshi Layout, KalenaAgrahara village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, presently comes under BBMP Limits, measuring East to West: 20 Feet, North to South: 80 Feet, in all measuring 1600 Sq. Feet and **bounded on the:** East by : Private Property, West by : Vacant Place, North by : Road, South by : Private Property.
Reserve Price : Rs.76,00,000/- (Rupees Seventy Six Lakhs Only)
EMD : Rs.7,60,000/- (Rupees Seven Lakhs Sixty Thousandonly)
Bid Increment : Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only)

Mode of Auction	E-AUCTON
Inspection of Property	22/12/2023 between 11.00 a.m. to 01.00 p.m.

Contact Person and Phone No : Mr. Jansi Rao Mob. 9886090570, Mr. Chakradhari Shubham 93043767555 and Authorised Officer Mr.Varadaraj Mob: 9966078652 vardaraj.devaraj@indusind.com.
Last date for submission of Bid (E-auction) : **28/12/2023 up to 04:00 PM**
This publication is also a Fifteen Days (15) notice to the aforementioned borrower/guarantors under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditors Website i.e, **https://www.indusindbank.com,** regarding E-Auction/sale of respective property and other details before submitting their bids for taking part in the E –Auction. Bidders may also visit the website **https://www.bankeauctions.com.**
Place: Bangalore, Date: 12/12/2023 **Sd/-Authorised Officer, Indusind Bank Limited**

PUBLIC NOTICE
Our client (**'Client'**) is desirous of entering into certain transaction in connection with the immovable properties morefully described in the **'Schedule'** hereto and hereinafter collectively referred to as **'Schedule Properties'** with Mr. V. Sridhar and Mr. V. Sundararajan, residing at Bengaluru (**'Owners'**). The Owners have represented to our Client that: (i) Mr. V. Sridhar is the sole and absolute owner of the Item No. 1 of the Schedule Properties; and (ii) Mr. V. Sundararajan is the sole and absolute owner of the Item No. 2 of the Schedule Properties, with unrestricted rights of alienation over the same.
Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owners, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Properties are hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Properties or their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof of such claim/s or objections, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of publication of this Notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owners has/ have any right, title, interest or claim/s in respect of the Schedule Properties and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the said transaction in connection with the Schedule Properties.
SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Properties)
Item No. 1: All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing No. 296, Municipal No. 3 having PID No. 62-131-3, measuring 1580 square feet, situated at 6th Cross, I Block Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011, and bounded on the: **East by :** Property No. 292; **West by :** Property No. 296/3-1 belonging to Mr. V. Sundararajan and 10th 'C' Main Road; **North by :** Property No. 297; and **South by :** Property No. 295.
Item No. 2 : All that piece and parcel of immovable property bearing No. 296/3 (Old No. 296), Municipal No.3/1 having PID No. 62-131-3/1, measuring 2,470 square feet, situated at 6th Cross, I Block Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560011, and bounded on the: **East by :** Rear portion of the Property No. 296/3; **West by :** Road; **North by :** 7' x65' Passage left as approach from road to the rear portion of the Property No. 296/3 and then Property No. 297; and **South by :** Property No. 295.
Sd/- Date: 15.12.2023
Mr. Srinivas B.R. & Ms. Brijita Prakash, Partners Place : Bengaluru
DSK Legal,
Prestige Loka, No. 201, 2nd Floor, No. 7/1 & 7/7, Brunton Road, Craig Park Layout, Bengaluru – 560025.Tel: 080-69548770.

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಅಕ್ಕಮಹಾದೇವಿ
ಮಹಿಳಾ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ
ಕುಲಸಚಿವರ ಕಛೇರಿ, ಜ್ಞಾನ–ಶಕ್ತಿ ಆವರಣ(ತೊರವಿ) ವಿಜಯಪುರ.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 08352–229051, ವೆಬ್‌ಸೈಟ್ :registrar@kswu.ac.in
ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕರಾಅಮವಿವಿ/ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ/2023–24/2583 ದಿನಾಂಕ:11.12.2023
ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ
ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್)
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1992–2000 ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಅಧಿನಿಯಮ 2000ರ ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಇ–ಪ್ರಾಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ (KW-3) ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ದ್ವಿ–ಲಕೋಟಿ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಂಡ ಸಹಿ ಮಾಡಿರುವವರು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.
1) ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ:18.12.2023 ರ 17.15 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.**
2) ಟೆಕ್ನಿಕಲ್ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 19.12.2023 ರ 17.20 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.**
3) ಆರ್ಥಿಕ ಬಿಡ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 20.12.2023 ರ 16.00 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ.**
ಉಳಿದ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆ ದಸ್ತಾವೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಡಬಹುದು.
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಹೆಸರು: Providing painting works to various Dept. buildings and Hostel buildings at Jnana-Shakti Campus, K.S.A.W.U. Vijayapura. ಸೇವೆ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳುವ ಅಂದಾಜು ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ.: 85.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು (Including GST). ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸಿಂಗ ಫೀ:As per e-Procurement Portal. ಬಡ್ಡಿ ರಹಿತ ಇ.ಎಂ.ಡಿ. ರೂ. 1,70,000/–. ಟೆಂಡರ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪೂರೈಸುವ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶ: 10 ದಿನಗಳು. ವರ್ಕ್ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: KSWU/2023-24/BD/WORK_INDENT5
ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರ/ವಿಚಾರಣೆಗೆ ಇಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿದಾರರ ಅರ್ಹತೆ/ಟೆಂಡರಿನ ನಿಯಮ/ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರೋಸೆಸ್ಸಿಂಗ ಶುಲ್ಕ, ತುಂಬುವ ವಿಧಾನ ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗೆ http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in ಮೂಲಕ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಸದರಿ ಕಛೇರಿಯಿಂದ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಹಾಯಕ ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080–25501216, 080–25501227 ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆಯಬಹುದು.
ಸಹಿ/– ಕುಲಸಚಿವರು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಅಕ್ಕಮಹಾದೇವಿ ಮಹಿಳಾ ವಿಶ್ವವಿದ್ಯಾನಿಲಯ, ವಿಜಯಪುರ
ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/317/ಕೆಎಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2023–24

IN THE COURT OF THE VIII ADDITIONAL DISTRICT JUDGE BENGALURU RURAL DISTRICT AT BENGALURU
R.A.No. 109/2021
Between: Sri. P. Muniyappa and others ... **Appellants**
And: Sri. Papanna and others ... **Respondents**
DEFENDANTS NO.3 & 4
1. Jayarama Reddy, S/o Late L. Abbaiah Reddy, Aged Major, R/o Balagere Village, Varturu Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk,
2. Hema Reddy. L.A, S/o Late L. Abbaiah Reddy, Age Major, R/o Balagere Village, Varturu Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk.
NOTICE ON APPEAL TO THE RESPONDENTS 3 & 4 UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC.
Take notice that, the Appellants have filed the above Appeal against Judgment and Decree Passed in O.S. No.2347/2007 by the V Additional Senior Civil Judge at Bengaluru Rural District, with respect to the suit schedule property. In the said Appeal the court has issued suit summons/notice to you. Now the above case is stands posted on **03/02/2024** for your appearance. Therefore you are hereby called upon to appear in the VIII Additional District and Sessions Judge at Bengaluru Rural District, Bangalore on the aforesaid date at 11-00 a.m, either personally or through an Advocate duly instructed, failing which the above case will be decided in your absence.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of property bearing, Sy.No.125/7 measuring 2-00 Acres situated at Nagondanahalli Village, K.R. Pura Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, and bounded on; **East by:** Land of Munirudrappa, **West by:** Land of Abbaiah Gowda, **North by:** Land Sy No. 125/8. **South by:** Road.
Given under my hand and seal of this court on this 4-12-2023.
By order of the Court, Chief Administrative Officer, District & Sessions Judge, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore.
Advocate for Appellants:
H.V. SHYAME GOWDA
#104, 5th C Main, RPC Layout, Hampinagar, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560104.

IN THE COURT OF HON'BLE XIV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH-28)
P & SC No. 685/ 2023
BETWEEN: 1. MRS. UMA J SHENOY, Aged about 74 years, Wife of Late Mr. Janardhan Shenoy K, Having place of residence at: # 03, Navarathna Garden, Kanakpura Road, Near IOC Petrol Bunk, Gubbalala Gate Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru- 560062 ... **PETITIONER NO. 1**,
2. MRS. RADHIKA SHRIDHAR NAYAK, Aged about 47 years, Wife of Shridhar S Nayak, Daughter of Late Mr. Janardhan Shenoy K, Residing at: #73, Radhakrishna, 11th Main Road, MC Layout, 1st Stage, Vijaya Nagar, Bangalore- 560040 ... **PETITIONER NO.2**,
3. MR. NAGAPRASAD SHENOY, Aged about 44 years, Son of Late Mr. Janardhan Shenoy K, Having place of residence at # 03, Navarathna Garden, Kanakpura Road, Near IOC Petrol Bunk, Gubbalala Gate, Doddakallasandra, Bengaluru- 560062 ... **PETITIONER NO. 3**
AND: NIL ... RESPONDENTS
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas the above named have preferred the above petition before this court under Section 372 of The Indian Succession Act for the grant of succession certificate in favour of the Petitioners in respect of Schedule mentioned below. The below mentioned schedule has been held by Late Sri Janardhan Shenoy K who demised on 09/06/2021.
Interested parties are hereby called to appear in this court in person or in person or by a pleader duly instructed on the **23/01/2024** at 11.00 AM inform to show cause against the Petitioners, failing which, the appearance will be taken as NIL and the petition will be heard and disposed off ex-parte.
SCHEDULE
Item No. 1: PPF account of Late Sri Janardhan Shenoy .K having account No 10374533530, maintained with SBI Bank, Chamarajpet Branch, having IFSC Code No SBIN0005794. Currently the account has a total sum of more than Rs 39,60,484/- (Rupees Thirty-Nine Lakhs Sixty Thousand and Four Hundred and Eighty-Three only).
Given under my hand and seal of the Hon'ble XIV Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bangalore (CCH – 28) on this 12-12-2023
By Order of The Court, Assistant Registrar, City Civil Court, Bangalore
ADVOCATE FOR PETITIONER:
CHANDAN SANJAY BHAT
ABHAYA LAW CHAMBERS
No. 15/5, 1st floor, Wood street, Richmond Town, Ashoknagar, Bengaluru- 560025.

Government of Karnataka
(Public Works Department)
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER PWD DIVISION BIDAR
NO: EE/PWD//DIVN/BDR/KKRDB/JE-5/ 2023-24/2489
Date: 11.12.2023
INVITATION FOR TENDERS.
On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, The Executive Engineer, PWD Division Bidar invites Tenders from eligible Tenderers for the WORK_INDENT NO. PWD/ 2023-24/BD/RD /OW//WORK_INDENT (General 03) 6569, 6670, and 5460/call-2. Amount put to tender for the works are Minimum Rs. 11.77 Lakhs. & Maximum Rs. 126.48 Lakhs. Tender documents may be downloaded from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal of the Govt of Karnataka Viz. https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on 11.12.2023. Tenders must be submitted through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal on or before 16.00 hours on 20.12.2023. Further any other information can be seen from the e-procurement portal or can be had from the undersigned.
Note :- Turn over certificate Without UDI Number will not be considered.
SD/- Executive Engineer,
DIPR/Bidar/166/KSMC&A/2023-24 **PWD Division Bidar.**

DISTRICT SURVEILLANCE OFFICE
DHO COMPLEX, BEHIND DC OFFICE, OPP. AMANIKERE, TUMKUR-572101. E-Mail:dsu_tumkur @yahoo .co.in, ncdtumkur@gmail.com Ph:0816-2260594
ಸಂ : ಜಿಸಕತು:ಎನ್.ಸಿ.ಡಿ/297/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 11.12.2023
Short Term Tender Schedule
District Health and Family Welfare Society Tumkur invites a short-term tender for procurement of kits ,consumables, Reagents, lancets and strips through the E-procurement portal.
* Date of publishing Tender Document on e-Procurement platform : 13-12-2023, 4.00 pm onwards. * Last date for submission of tenders : 27-12-2023 4.00 pm. * Date and time of opening of Technical bids 28-12-2023 4.00 pm. * Date and time of opening of Financial Bids : 29-12-2023 4.00 pm. 1) DHFWS/DSU/XV-FC/NFDS/SC/PHC-UPHC/ KITS,CONSUMABLES,REAGENTS/01/2022-23. Total Tender Value Rs.122 LakhsEMD Amount-Rs. 2,00,000=00 2) DSU/NCD/NPCDCS/ glucostrips and lancets /01/2023-24 Total Tender Value Rs.20.30 Lakhs EMD Amount- Rs. 50,000=00 * Place of opening of bids : District Health & Family Welfare Office , District Surveillance Office,TumkurMOB: 9449843269
Sd/- District Surveillance office, Tumkur.
DIPR/TUM/362/KAMCA/2023-24

INDUSIND BANK LTD.
1-10-72, 3rd floor, Ashoka Janardhana Chambers, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016, Ph: (040) 40916229
E-AUCTION SALE PROCLAMATION NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT 2002
Sale of immovable asset under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as the Act).
Notice is hereby given to the public in general and to the Borrower/s and Guarantor/s in particular that the under mentioned property is mortgaged / charged to the secured creditor, being IndusInd Bank Limited, the possession of under mentioned property had been taken by the Authorised Officer of the IndusInd Bank Limited under S. 13(4) of the Act will be sold by E- Auction as mentioned below for recovery of under mentioned dues and applicable interest, charges and costs etc. as detailed below.
The property described below is being sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** under the rule no. 8 & 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules (hereinafter referred to as the rules) for the recovery of the dues detailed as under:
Name of Borrower : M/s. Patil Trading Co, Rep. By its Proprietor, Co-Borrowers/Guarantors: 1) Mr. Sunil Prakash Patil,2) Mrs. Daneshwari S Patil
Total Amount Due as on 30-11-2023 : Rs. 47,53,995.00 (Rupees Forty Seven Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Five Only)

Nature of Possession	Under possession
Date & Time of Auction	29/12/2023,11:30 AM to 12:00 PM
Reserve Price	Rs.36,30,000/- (Rupees Thirty SixLakhs Thirty Thousand Only)
EMD	Rs.3,63,000/- (Rupees Three Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand only) RTGS/NEFT/Fund Transfer to the credit of "IndusInd Bank Ltd", Account No. 00083564604005
Bid Increment	Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand only)
Mode of Auction	E-AUCTON

Description of secured asset : All that piece and parcel of the apartment/Flat bearing No.401, 4th floor with a super built area of about 1366 and 341sq.ft of undivided right , title and interest in the entire property bearing No.15, Rajeshwarinagar, Laggere village Katha No.131/1, presently under Dasarahalli CMC having its present katha no.213, of Laggere main road, Laggere, Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore-560058, measuring East to West : 50 feet, North to South 60-0 feet totally measuring 3000 square feet, along with one covered car parking.
Date of Inspection : 22/12/2023 between 11:30 AM to 01:00 PM. please contact Mr. Jansi Rao, 9886090570, Mr. Chakradhari Shubham, 930437675, Authorised Officer Mr. Varadaraj, Mob: 9966078652, vardaraj.devaraj@indusind.com.
Last Date of Submission of bids (E-auction) : 28/12/2023 up to 04:00 PM
This publication is also a Fifteen Days (15) notice to the aforementioned borrower/guarantors under Rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Secured Creditors Website i.e, **https://www.indusindbank.com,** regarding E-Auction/sale of respective property and other details before submitting their bids for taking part in the E –Auction. Bidders may also visit the website **https://www.bankeauctions.com.**
Date: 12-12-2023, Place : Bangalore **Sd/- Authorised Officer, Indusind Bank Limited**

Advertisement

Host State

Supported by
Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Ministry of Heavy Industries
Government of India

Confederation of Indian Industry

Supported by

Sector Partner
iCEMA
SHAPING INDIA'S TOMORROW

Supported by

BUILDING INDIA'S TOMORROW
TECHNOLOGY / GLOBALISATION / SUSTAINABILITY / INCLUSIVENESS

CII EXCON

12-16 December 2023, BIEC, Bengaluru

Mr R Dinesh, President, CII *said, "Gender parity needs to be driven at leadership level. Companies not only need to become inclusive in hiring & recruitment, but also in impacting the ecosystem including taking steps in gender responsive procurement and creating inclusive supply and value chains. Let us redefine success beyond numbers and ensure that our collective growth is not just numerical but personal, with a keen focus on gender diversity, breaking barriers and fostering an economy where women flourish as leaders"*

Ms Rumjhum Chatterjee, Chairperson, CII National Committee on Women Empowerment *said, "Enhancing the participation of women in the construction industry is a goal that we have to work on with single-minded focus. And for that all stakeholders must work together to make that happen. The role of organizational policies and practices that enable women to build a successful and sustainable career in the construction sector will be a key enabler in this endeavour"*

Lt Gen Raghu Srinivasan, Director General, Border Roads Organisation *highlighted successful collaboration with industry partners for a model bridge meeting specific needs with increased width, two lanes and stronger support for larger spans and higher loads. This achievement underscored modern construction equipment's vital role in fulfilling evolving infrastructure demands efficiently and precisely*

Lt Gen Arvind Walia, Engineer-In-Chief, Military Engineering Services, Ministry of Defense *said, "The organization, operating since 1960, has successfully executed over 61,500 roads, around 1000 permanent bridges and 21 airports in challenging terrains and adverse climatic conditions across the nation and three other countries. Leveraging state-of-the-art technology solutions, the organization has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to innovation and efficiency. The successful execution of infrastructure projects in diverse and challenging environments stands as a testament to the seamless integration of advanced technologies into the BRO's operational strategies".*

Key Highlights

32,00,000 sq feet of Exhibition Display Area

80,000+ Business Visitors

1000+ Exhibitors Both National and International

Participating Countries

AUSTRIA, CHINA, CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE
GERMANY, INDIA, ITALY, ROMANIA
RUSSIA, SOUTH KOREA, SPAIN, SRI LANKA
TURKEY, UAE, UK, USA

@FollowCIIEXCON @CII_Excon @cii-excon www.excon.in

Excon Visitor Helpline No. +91 97179 18958